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Social District
Craft Beverages**



Greater
BRIDGMAN
Area Chamber & Growth Alliance

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Can't decide between a getaway to New Buffalo or St. Joseph? Why not stay in the heart of it all? Bridgman Inn offers comfortable, clean, and recently remodeled accommodations perfect for families, workers, students, and adventurers alike.

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6 minutes to Warren Dunes <--> 4 minutes to Weko Beach

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Prime Location: Minutes from Lake Michigan beaches, scenic nature trails, and must-try local restaurants.

Sip and Savor: Perfectly positioned near wineries, breweries, and distilleries, with tours available for your tasting pleasure.

Spacious Comfort: Sound-proof rooms for a peaceful night's sleep, plus a large group room with a full kitchen for big gatherings.

Convenient Access: Located right off I-94 at Exit 16 in the safe, friendly community of Bridgman.

Whether you're here to explore Southwest Michigan's sandy shores or indulge in its rich food and beverage scene, Bridgman Inn is your ideal launchpad. Book your stay today!



Updated spacious, sound-proof rooms.



Explore the wooded nature trails located on premises.



Enjoy the large outdoor pool in season. It's 8 feet deep!



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Fax (269)465-6150
Newbridgmaninn@gmail.com

Welcome TO BRIDGMAN

We are so glad that you have chosen to visit Bridgman, Michigan. Inside the pages of this magazine, you will find local businesses, as well as fun activities to enjoy in the Bridgman region.

No matter your age, you will find something new and exciting to do for the whole family! For example, adults might want to tour the many local wineries and breweries or take a swing at one of the many beautiful golf courses in the area. If the kids are tagging along for the day, take them to one of the many beaches and playgrounds that Bridgman has to offer, or mooove on over to Shuler Dairy Farm where you can take a tour of their facilities, pet the cows, and have freshly made soft serve ice cream made from the milk of the cows on the farm.

Stroll through the downtown streets and explore the wide variety of businesses and shops and find a little treasure to take home with you as a reminder of your time with us.

Rainy day? No problem! Sign up for a class or special event at the Bridgman Public Library, JLN Studio, Fusion Gallery, or many of the other hot spots. Be sure to take time to stop and smell the roses with a drive through the beautiful countryside. Maybe even stop at one of the many farm markets, like Krieger's Wholesale Nursery, for some fresh hand-picked produce. Then at the end of the day, stop at one of the many fabulous restaurants to have someone else cook dinner for you.

So, kick back, stay a while, and take in everything that Bridgman and the surrounding area of Southwest Michigan have to offer you. Wineries, breweries, distilleries, shops, and restaurants have come from all over to make this area their home because they saw the beauty and the growing potential that is offered here, and we know that you will too. Whether you are staying for just one night, a weekend, a week, or a lifetime, we know that you will love the Bridgman area! **Have fun!**

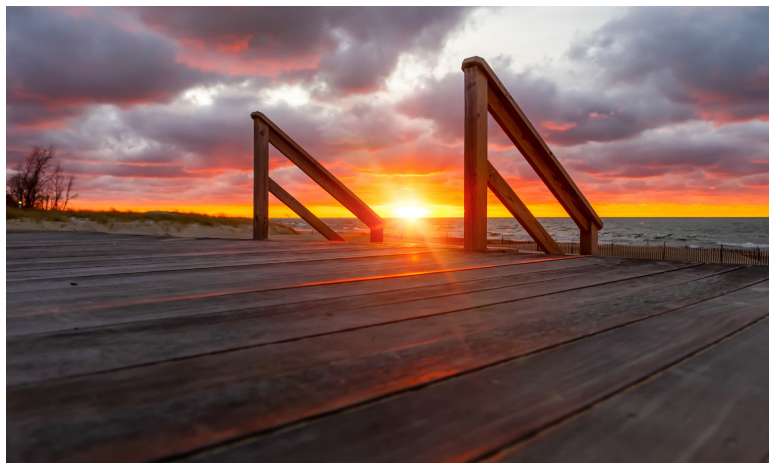


Kate Marie

Publisher - Discover Bridgman

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Most of the photos for *Discover Bridgman* were taken by Joshua Nowicki and Molly Pate. Southwest Michigan is proud of these two accomplished photographers.

They have kindly given us permission to utilize their art to show the beauty of Bridgman and all of Southwest Michigan. You can view their work and purchase their work online.

Joshua Nowicki Photography
joshuanowicki.smugmug.com

Molly Pate Art
molly-pate.pixels.com



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GREATER BRIDGMAN AREA CHAMBER & GROWTH ALLIANCE

Greetings from the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber and Growth Alliance

In the spring of 2024, I proudly assumed the role of Director for the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber and Growth Alliance. Serving the residents and business owners of the Bridgman community is truly an enviable assignment.

We are the heart of Southwest Michigan; our community is more than just a scenic destination—it is a vibrant gateway to the unique charm of a small coastal town surrounded by unspoiled rural beauty. What truly sets Bridgman apart is its character, shaped by generations of families who have built a strong, welcoming community and a wonderful place to call home.

Whether you are enjoying a fine meal at D'Agostino's Bar and Grille, enjoying the thrill of bumper cars at Captain Mike's Fun Park, or soaking in the sun along the pristine shores of Weko Beach and Warren Dunes State Park, there

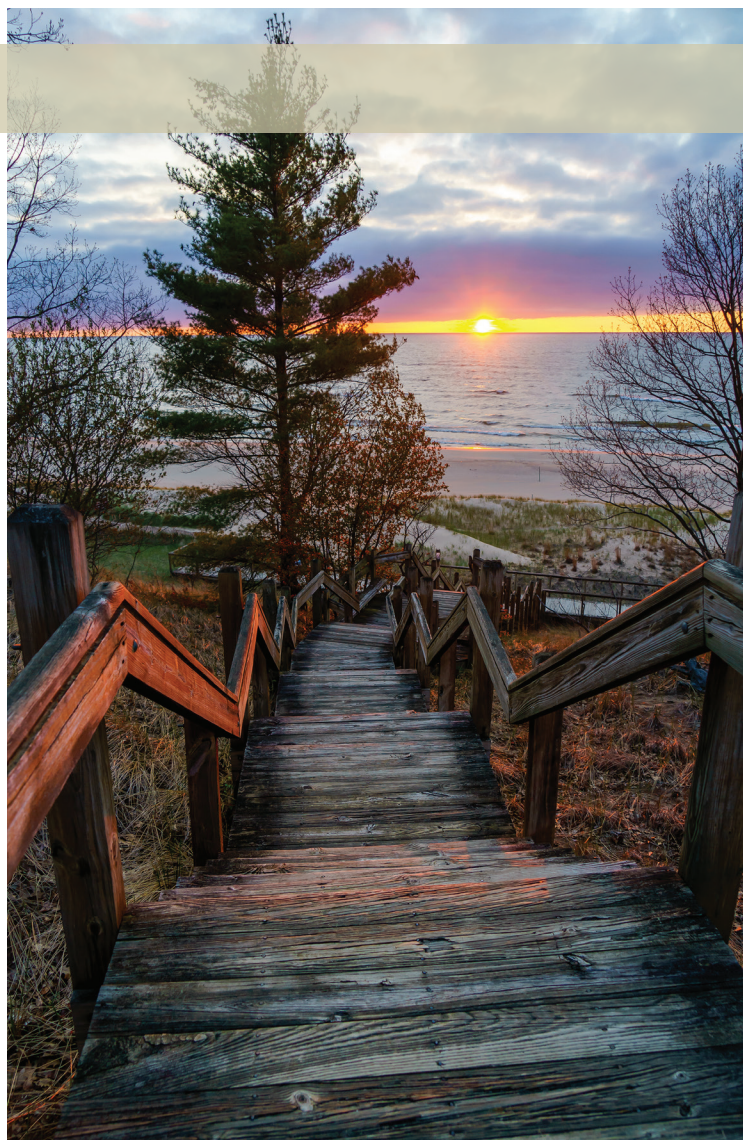
is something here for everyone. Explore the richness of our local culture through family farms, award-winning wineries, craft distilleries, and celebrated stops along the Makers Trail.

We invite you to experience Bridgman for yourself, stop in for a coffee or cocktail, browse our shops, and discover a place that captures the best of Michigan's sunset coast.



Nancy Kiernan

Director - Greater Bridgman Area
Chamber & Growth Alliance



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Downtown Bridgman

FUN ON THE FARM

These farms and nurseries provide a range of experiences, from picking fresh blueberries and flowers to exploring sustainable farming practices. It's advisable to check each location's current offerings and hours before visiting, as seasons and availability can vary.

Berry Lucky Farm

3542 W. Lemon Creek Rd., Bridgman, MI

A 6-acre blueberry farm offering U-pick experiences since 2019. Open from early July, coinciding with National Blueberry Day. Surrounded by wineries, breweries, and beaches, it's a peaceful spot for berry picking.

Krieger's Wholesale Nursery

9555 N. Gast Rd., Bridgman, MI

A wholesale nursery offering a wide selection of plants, trees, and shrubs. While primarily serving landscapers and garden centers, they also welcome retail customers looking for quality plants for their gardens.

Lavender Bliss Flower Farm

11126 Lange Rd., Bridgman, MI

A charming flower farm offering U-pick experiences, allowing visitors to create their own bouquets from a variety of seasonal blooms. The farm provides a peaceful setting for flower enthusiasts and is a popular spot for photography.

Rambo Blueberries

11306 Gast Rd., Bridgman, MI

A fourth-generation, 120-acre blueberry farm offering both U-pick and ready-picked options. MAEAP and GAP certified, ensuring sustainable and safe farming practices. Open Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM, and weekends from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Starbuck's Blueberry Farm

9245 Gast Rd., Bridgman, MI

Specializes in U-pick blueberries with a roadside stand for fresh-picked berries. The U-pick season typically runs through July and August. Stay updated via their Facebook and Instagram pages.

LOCAL AGRICULTURAL FACTS

Agriculture is the second-largest industry in Michigan's state economy. Michigan has about 10 million acres of farmland and over 56,000 farms. More than 90% of Michigan farmland is owned by families or individuals. The State of Michigan produces over 200 agricultural commodities. Michigan is the second-most agriculturally diverse state in the nation. Michigan leads the U.S. in the production of 19 agricultural commodities, and ranks in the top 10 for production of 30 others.

AGRICULTURE IN BERRIEN COUNTY

Over 1,000 Farms
Over 350 Orchards
Over 150 Vegetable Farms
About 100 Million in annual agricultural production

Rankings in State Ag Production:
#1 in Grapes
#2 in Apples
#4 in Blueberries
#5 in Asparagus

State Data from Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) materials. Berrien County Data from Southwest Michigan Regional Planning Commission (SWMPC) materials. Data represented is from a range of recent years, with some rounded and/or estimated.



Krieger's Wholesale Nursery

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269.465.5522, phone
269.465.4822, fax

www.kriegersnursery.com



BRINGING THE STRONG TOWNS APPROACH TO SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

Last year, the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber took an important step toward building more resilient, people-focused communities by introducing the *Strong Towns* movement to our region. *Strong Towns* is a national nonprofit organization that helps communities become financially sustainable by focusing on small, incremental investments that improve quality of life and long-term stability.

As part of this effort, we hosted a two-day summit at Corewell Health's Frederick S. Upton Foundation Educational Pavilion featuring Charles "Chuck" Marohn—the internationally renowned civil engineer, urban planner, and founder of *Strong Towns*—where he challenged area leaders to rethink how we invest in our communities.

For example, rather than relying on big, speculative projects or top-down mandates, *Strong Towns* urges communities to make smaller, incremental investments that deliver real value over time. This approach, which prioritizes concepts like walkable streets, mixed-use zoning, incremental housing, and local leadership, has proven to build long-term stability and growth while preserving what makes each place unique.

These principles align closely with the work of the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber and the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber and Growth Alliance (CGA). In fact, with Nancy Keirnan leading the charge in Greater Bridgman, we're already seeing tangible results. In just a year, we've seen multiple projects take shape that, while modest in scale, are meaningful in impact—

exactly the kind of steady, community-driven improvements that *Strong Towns* advocates for.

Small towns succeeding today focus less on growth at any cost and more on small, smart, financially strong steps. They prioritize making existing places better, safer, more vibrant, and more connected—without depending on one "silver bullet" solution like a new mall, tourism dollars, or major industrial facility.

As we look ahead, the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber remains committed to advancing this work alongside our partners in Greater Bridgman and beyond. By embracing the *Strong Towns* approach, we are empowering local leaders, businesses, and residents to shape their communities in ways that are practical, sustainable, and deeply rooted in local values. Together, we are proving that small, incremental steps can build stronger, more resilient towns—places where people want to live, work, and invest for generations to come.



Arthur Havlicek

President & CEO
Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber of Commerce



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Portage	South Haven	Stevensville	Sturgis	Three Rivers





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269-465-3434

8970 Red Arrow Hwy
Bridgman, MI

View full menu at
dagostinosnavajo.com

UNIQUE EATERIES:

The American Legion

4241 Legion St., Bridgman, MI 49016

A local favorite for wing-night, burger-night, their famous fish fry Fridays and Sunday Sandwich Specials. They have a newly remodeled hall for events and a beautiful patio area for outdoor dining.

China Café

4205 Lake St., Bridgman, MI 49106

China Café is a casual spot serving traditional Chinese dishes such as sweet and sour chicken, sesame chicken, and Mongolian beef. Known for friendly service and affordable prices, it's a popular choice for classic Chinese comfort food.

D'Agostino's Navajo Bar and Grille

8970 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A family-owned establishment serving Italian and American dishes, including seafood and steak, in a cozy setting. Known for its attentive service and house-made recipes.
(See ad to left.)



 
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269-465-6933



DELICIOUS DINING IN BRIDGMAN

Emma Hearth and Market

9709 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A cozy eatery inspired by Southern Italy's Calabrian roots, Emma's offered wood-fired pizzas, handmade pastas, and Italian-inspired sandwiches. The attached market featured organic produce, local cheeses, and Italian imports—many sourced from their own Live Station Farm in Coloma.

Getaway Cubbie Grille

9489 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A Chicago Cubs-themed restaurant offering a lively atmosphere with outdoor seating. Menu highlights include shrimp pasta and prime rib, complemented by friendly service. *(See ad on page 8.)*

Haymarket Brewery & Taproom

9301 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A rustic brewpub offering a rotating selection of house brews and pub food. The outdoor seating area is dog-friendly, providing a relaxed environment for patrons and their pets.

Lake Street Eats

4228 Lake St., Bridgman, MI 49106

A versatile venue with a dining room and sports bar, serving a diverse menu with gluten-free options. Known for dishes like LSE Poutine and a family-friendly atmosphere. *(See ad below.)*

Lydia's Down Home Cooking

9804 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A welcoming spot known for hearty breakfasts and comfort food. Popular for their fish fry, burgers, and generous portions at reasonable prices.

Mikey's Drive in

9096 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A classic drive-in offering fast food favorites, known for its quick service and nostalgic charm. A convenient stop for a casual meal on the go. *(See ad on page 6.)*

Molly's Beach Walk Café

4514 Lake St., Bridgman, MI 49106

A relaxed beach-side café serving breakfast and lunch. Favorites include scrambled eggs, chicken bacon ranch sandwiches, and pancakes. The casual, friendly setting makes it a favorite stop for locals and beach-goers alike.



*Relax you're
on Lake Time*



4228 Lake Street | Bridgman, MI
(269) 266-7257
lakestreeteats.com



4242 Lake Street | Bridgman, MI
(269) 748-2012
laketimebrewing.com

UNIQUE EATERIES

Rochefort's The Next Generation

4210 Lake St., Bridgman, MI 49106

A long-standing, family-owned diner offering all-day breakfast and lunch. Local favorites include the 'Mad Max' and 'Chubby Cheeks' sandwiches. It's beloved for its generous portions and nostalgic, homey vibe.

Roma Pizza

9673 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman, MI 49106

A local favorite since 1967, offering homemade Italian cuisine like pizza and lasagna. They provide dine-in, carryout, and delivery options, with gluten-free choices available.





GETAWAY

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HOLY COW!

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and Hand-breaded
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KARAOKE

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COUNTY
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YEARS

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for Great
Food and
Friends

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www.getawaycubbiebar.com

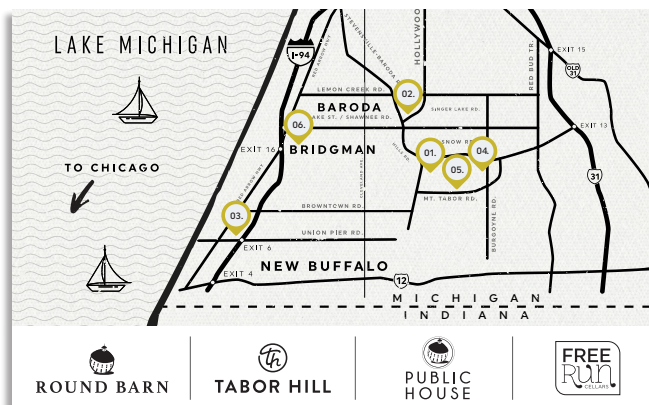
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FOLLOW THE MAKERS TRAIL



MAKERS TRAIL

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN BEER, WINE, CIDER & SPIRITS

of these artisans are putting down stakes just off our Lake Michigan shore. It's easy for you to find them. Just follow the Makers Trail. You're just minutes from each one in Southwest Michigan.

There are 4 makers in Bridgman and a total of 23 within 7 miles!

Every land has its makers, those artisans who are crafters of wood, forgers of steel, and tillers of earth. Ours are masters of wine, beer, cider and spirits. An increasing number

The makers will pour flights for you and offer plates of savory cheeses, smoky grilled meats, crisp vegetables and creamy chocolate truffles – most from locally sourced ingredients. So take a moment to pause in the whirl of life. It'll make you happy.

The Makers Trail mobile app will guide your journey. Makers Trail maps are also available at the front desk of most local hotels.

The landscape of Southwest Michigan is dotted with picturesque vineyards and wineries, and craft breweries have sprung up in abundance throughout our area. Many of our wines and beers are award-winning and can be sampled at local restaurants, as well as at the wineries and breweries. We're delighted to share with you some of the best wines and beers you'll find anywhere. Following is a list of those withing a 7 mile radius of Bridgman. For the most current and complete list of makers in Southwest Michigan visit www.makerstrail.org or scan the code.



BREWERIES:

Haymarket Brewing

9301 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman
haymarketbrewing.com

Lake Time Brewing

4242 Lake St., Bridgman
laketimebrewing.com

Round Barn Brewery & Public House

9151 First St., Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Round Barn Winery, Distillery & Brewery - Baroda Tasting Room & Estate

10983 Hills Rd., Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Transient Artisan Ales

4229 Lake St., Bridgman
transientartisanales.com
(See ad on page 6.)

Watermark Brewing Company

5781 St. Joseph Ave., Stevensville
watermarkbrewing.com

CIDERIES:

Peat's Cider Social

6201 Red Arrow Hwy., Stevensville
peatscider.com

DISTILLERIES:

Free Run Cellars

Berrien Springs Tasting Room

10062 Burgoyne Rd., Berrien Springs
freeruncellars.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Round Barn Public House

9151 First St., Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Round Barn Winery, Distillery & Brewery - Baroda Tasting Room & Estate

10983 Hills Rd., Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com
(See ad on page 8.)

WINERIES:

Baroda Founders Wine Cellar

8963 Hills Rd., Baroda
founderswinecellar.com

Chill Hill Winery

8986 1st St., Baroda
chillhill.net

Dablon Vineyards

111 W. Shawnee Rd., Baroda
Dablon.com

Domaine Berrien Cellars

398 E Lemon Creek Rd., Berrien Springs
domaineberrien.com

Free Run Cellars

10062 Burgoyne Rd., Berrien Springs
freeruncellars.com

Golden Muse Winery

8903 Stevensville-Baroda Rd., Baroda
goldenmusewinery.com

Gravity

10220 Lauer Rd., Baroda
gravitywine.com

Lemon Creek Winery

533 E Lemon Creek Rd., Berrien Springs
lemoncreekwinery.com

Red Top Winery

482 E. Snow Rd., Baroda
redtopwinery.com

Round Barn Public House

9151 First St., Baroda
roundbarnpublichouse.com

Round Barn Winery

10983 Hills Rd., Baroda
roundbarnwinery.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Solasta Winery

11945 Red Arrow Hwy., Sawyer
solastawinery.com

Tabor Hill Winery Champagne Cellar

10243 Red Arrow Hwy., Bridgman
taborhill.com
(See ad on page 8.)

Tabor Hill Winery & Restaurant

185 Mount Tabor Rd., Buchanan
taborhill.com
(See ad on page 8.)



BRIDGMAN'S CRAFT BEVERAGE MAKERS

Whether you're a local or a visitor, Bridgman's vibrant craft beverage scene offers a rich tapestry of flavors and experiences. From guided tastings to immersive tours, there's something to delight every palate. Each of these establishments offers a unique experience, reflecting the rich beverage culture of Southwest Michigan. Whether you're a wine aficionado or a craft beer enthusiast, Bridgman and its surroundings have something special to offer.

Haymarket Brewery & Taproom

9301 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman, MI

Haymarket Brewery offers a variety of beers brewed on-site. The taproom provides a welcoming atmosphere for visitors to enjoy freshly brewed beers and hearty pub fare. Haymarket Taproom is an extension of the acclaimed Haymarket Pub & Brewery in Chicago. The Bridgman location offers a spacious taproom and beer garden, providing a relaxed atmosphere for patrons. A diverse selection of house-brewed beers, including IPAs, stouts, and Belgian-style ales. Seasonal and limited-edition brews showcase innovative brewing techniques.

Lake Time Brewing and Spirits

4236 Lake Street, Bridgman, MI

Lake Time Brewing and Spirits offers a combination of craft beers and distilled spirits. It's a great spot for those interested in exploring both brewing and distilling processes. Often hosts live events with music and comedy performers.

Tabor Hill Winery - Bridgman Tasting Room

10243 Red Arrow Highway, Bridgman, MI

Tabor Hill's Bridgman Tasting Room offers a selection of 30 wines, ranging from sweet whites to dry reds. For \$12, guests can enjoy a guided tasting of six wines. No reservations are required, making it a convenient stop for spontaneous visits. Tabor Hill Winery is a pioneer in Michigan's wine industry, being the first to produce wines from European vinifera grapes in the state. They offer two locations: a tasting room in Bridgman and a full-service winery and restaurant

in Buchanan featuring a diverse portfolio of 30 wines, ranging from sweet whites to dry reds and notable events like the Wild Game Dinner and Vino & Flatbread specials.

Transient Artisan Ales

4229 Lake Street, Bridgman, MI

Situated in Bridgman, Transient Artisan Ales is renowned for its innovative and small-batch beers. Founded by Chris Betts, Transient Artisan Ales is renowned for its innovative brewing techniques, particularly its focus on wild and spontaneous fermentation. The brewery emphasizes small-batch production, allowing for meticulous attention to detail in each brew. The brewery has garnered attention for its creative approach to brewing, making it a must-visit for craft beer enthusiasts. Spontaneous beers fermented with wild yeast, benefiting from the region's abundant fruit agriculture. Notable creations include "Foeder 2," a fruited sour beer aged in oak barrels, and "Agnitio," a farmhouse ale that won a gold medal at the Festival of Wood and Barrel-Aged Beer.



DISCOVER BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

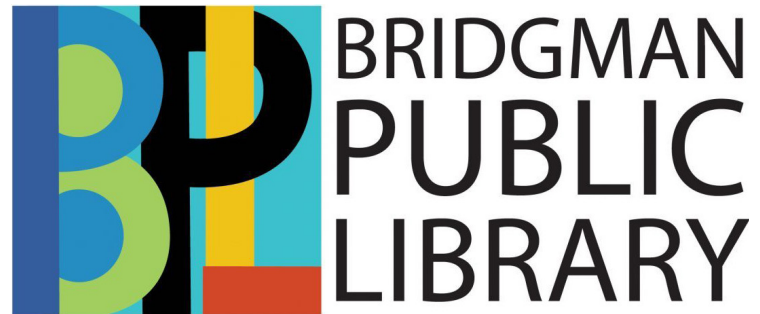
The team at the Bridgman Public Library is always busy planning fun activities for our community! Did you know that you do not need to have a BPL library card to enjoy our facility and programs? It is true! You are invited to explore our program calendar and join us anytime- there is something for everyone!

Find it online at: <https://bridgmanlibrary.com/calendar>

Summertime means Summer Reading, and we promote a lifelong love of reading and learning by offering patrons of every age a Summer Reading Program. With a new theme every year, we encourage all our community members to sign up and participate; stop by the front desk to register and pick up your reading log beginning in June. While you are there, pick up a program calendar to see all the opportunities for fun at the library during the summer season.

Be sure to keep an eye out for BPL staff at community events around the area all year long. We participate in many school events to support our schools, teachers, and students. And be sure to look for us during the Celebrate Bridgman event every July. We love to chat with our community members, do crafts with kids, and play games together.

If you need a book and the library is closed? At the park and need something to read while the kiddos play? BPL has you covered! We furnish and stock several Little Free Libraries located in Toth Park, Weko Beach and Lake Township Park. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay up to date with all the current library happenings!



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

4460 LAKE STREET
BRIDGMAN, MI. 49106
269-465-3663
BRIDGMANLIBRARY.COM

MON-THUR	10AM-8PM
FRI	10AM-5PM
SAT	10AM-4PM

COLOR OUR WORLD™

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Sign up starting: June 16
Program Runs: June 23 - August 2

Create a colorful tapestry of experiences this summer at Bridgman Public Library!



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS:

Bridgman Public Schools serves over 900 students from pre-K through 12th grade and is recognized as one of Michigan's top-performing districts. Known for academic excellence, the district consistently ranks among the best in Berrien County, with all three schools—Bridgman Elementary, F.C. Reed Middle, and Bridgman High—earning top 5% rankings in Michigan by U.S. News & World Report in 2024. Bridgman Elementary was also honored as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2020.

Bridgman High School boasts a 95% graduation rate, has been ranked #1 in Berrien County and #22 statewide, and offers rigorous academic pathways including AP and CTE programs. F.C. Reed Middle School ranks among Michigan's top 100 middle schools, while personalized instruction at Bridgman Elementary supports holistic child development.

The district offers 22 athletic programs, award-winning arts, and innovative extracurriculars like Robotics, Science Olympiad, and the WIN (What I Need) program. The community-supported Bridgman Aquatic Center provides year-round programs for students and residents alike.

Bridgman students benefit from strong community support, with scholarships up to \$40,000 and \$17,500 in annual enrichment grants from the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence. With a focus on achievement, opportunity, and community, Bridgman Public Schools continues to lead in education across the region.



269.326.0366
WWW.SHULERDAIRYFARMS.COM
BARODA, MICHIGAN

TOGETHER CHALLENGING OUR CHILDREN TO SUCCEED



PARKS, BEACHES, AND FAMILY FUN

Nestled along the shores of Lake Michigan, Bridgman Parks are all about bringing the community together through nature, recreation, and good old-fashioned fun. If you are a local looking for a peaceful getaway close to home or a visitor in search of scenic beauty and family-friendly adventures, Bridgman's parks have something for everyone.

Toth Park

Toth Park is the go-to for community fun in a more relaxed, neighborhood setting. Located in town on Toth Street, it is the kind of park where kids can run free on the new playground and families can enjoy family gatherings in the pavilions and summer cookouts. There is even a spacious dog park to let your fur babies play. Toth Park is a welcoming space for all ages, a great spot to meet neighbors, play with your dog, or just enjoy a break from the hustle of daily life.

The Downtown Bridgman Courtyard, Side Yard and Social District

This public space is a hidden gem where small-town charm meets vibrant community life. If you are visiting for a weekend getaway or just passing through on your Lake Michigan adventure, this is the perfect place to pause, relax, and soak in the local spirit. The Social District comes alive with music and laughter during community events and yet these interconnected living spaces are proof that sometimes the best experiences happen in the quiet corners of a town.



Lake Township Park

Lake Township Park, established in 1981, is home to Bridgman Softball Association, Bridgman Lake Township Youth Soccer, three pavilions, an eighteen-hole disc golf course, a pond and gazebo overlooking it, and several playground areas for the kids. A popular spot for family parties in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter, the park is truly a jewel for our community. There is always a reason to head outdoors in Bridgman because our parks are calling you!



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BEAUTIFUL WEKO BEACH & CAMPGROUND

Weko Beach & Campground

Weko Beach is the crown jewel of Bridgman's outdoor spaces. With its stunning sunsets, soft sand, and easy access to the water, it is a favorite for beach-goers, photographers, and nature lovers alike.

But Weko Beach is not just about soaking up the sun—it is also home to a beautiful campground, offering rustic campsites and cabins surrounded by wooded dunes. The perfect space for pitching a tent under the stars or arriving in style with your RV; the campground is the perfect base camp for exploring the area. And let us not forget the boardwalk, which provides one of the best views of Lake Michigan anywhere in Southwest Michigan. It is a peaceful spot to sip your coffee in the morning or catch a golden sunset in the evening.

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The Caisson

The colorful structure at Weko Beach is called a caisson [KAY-sahn], a French word meaning “box.” It houses pumps and pipes that draw water from Lake Michigan for the nearby treatment plant. Occasionally, low water levels leave it surrounded by sand—as it was nearly a decade ago when it was painted with a vibrant mural.



THE ALL-SEASON MAGIC OF WARREN DUNES

As the gateway to Southwest Michigan, Warren Dunes State Park lies only twenty miles from the Indiana border, yet feels like a world away from the congested, noisy urban centers that line Lake Michigan's southern shoreline.

A true standout among Michigan State Parks, it offers 1,952 acres of adventure and natural beauty. With three miles of sandy Lake Michigan shoreline, the beach features soft, golden sands that are perfect for sunbathing, swimming, and beach-combing. Among the parks towering sand dunes is the iconic Tower Hill, which rises approximately 260 feet above Lake Michigan. Visitors can climb, walk, run, or slide down sandy slopes, and climbing these dunes rewards visitors with panoramic views of the lake and the surrounding landscape.

The park also boasts six miles of hiking trails that wind through a variety of landscapes, including rugged forested areas, wetlands, and open dunes. There are two campgrounds: Mt. Randall, which is modern, and Hildebrandt, a semi-modern site. Both campgrounds include essential amenities such as drinking water, restrooms, and showers.

Visit once, and you will be drawn back again and again. Each season brings a new perspective, making this a year-round destination that captures the natural beauty and adventure spirit of Michigan.





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ESCAPE INTO NATURE AT WARREN WOODS

Nestled in the heart of Berrien County, less than 10 minutes from Bridgman, Warren Woods State Park offers a serene escape into one of Michigan's last remaining old-growth beech-maple forests. This 311-acre nature preserve, designated a National Natural Landmark in 1967, is home to towering American beech and sugar maple trees—some reaching over 125 feet tall and five feet in diameter—creating a cathedral-like canopy that filters sunlight and hushes the forest floor. The park's tranquil atmosphere and ecological significance make it a must-visit for nature enthusiasts and casual hikers alike.

Visitors can explore approximately 3.5 miles of easy hiking trails that meander through the lush forest and along the scenic Galien River. A charming footbridge spans the river, offering picturesque views and a perfect spot for wildlife observation. In spring, the forest floor comes alive with wildflowers, while autumn paints the canopy in vibrant hues of red and gold. Birdwatchers will appreciate the park's rich avian diversity, including sightings of pileated woodpeckers and various warbler species. Leashed dogs are welcome on the trails, making it an ideal destination for a peaceful, pet-friendly outing.

Whether you're seeking a quiet hike, a moment of reflection amidst towering trees, or a glimpse into Michigan's natural heritage, Warren Woods State Park offers a timeless retreat into the wild beauty of the state's southwestern corner.



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DISCOVER BRIDGMAN ON BIKE

Bridgman and Lake Charter Township will see a dramatic increase in non-motorized trails in the future! The first official non-motorized trail is a 1.2-mile trail connecting the City of Bridgman and Bridgman Public Schools High School to Lake Township Park. The trail, named in memory of past Lake Township Supervisor John W. Gast, runs along Gast Road and provides safe access for both cyclists and pedestrians. With so many recreational activities occurring at Lake Township Park, this trail will increase healthy lifestyles while creating a sense of community by connecting the city with this wonderful park.

The Friends of Berrien County Trails is continuing exciting trail development along Red Arrow Highway. This linear trail will

connect New Buffalo to St Joseph (and eventually South Haven) along Red Arrow Highway and the beautiful Lake Michigan Shoreline. The Marquette Greenway extension from Grand Beach to New Buffalo has already been completed, and this critical section will eventually connect to Chicago. The section from Sawyer to Bridgman will be completed in the next several years. The portion from the northern City limit to the Cook Power Plant is being prepared this year and is planned for completion in 2026. The benefits of the trail for the area residents will be a significant enhancement to our communities.





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BRIDGMAN OPEN AIR MARKET

More than just a farmers' market, the Bridgman Open-Air Market is the most diverse market in southwest Michigan. Held every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bridgman, Michigan, it features locally grown produce and the region's most talented artists and crafters.

From May to October, it is a lively gathering spot for local food enthusiasts and folk-art finds. Attending the market is not just about shopping; it is a fun experience. Engage with local vendors, learn about sustainable farming, and taste samples of the delicious offerings. There is always something new and exciting to discover.

This market supports local businesses while providing a vibrant community atmosphere. It is a family-friendly environment and a fantastic way to support local agriculture, all while enjoying the community vibe. Live music performances and activities planned for the kids make it a festive outing for all ages.



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BRIDGMAN'S DOWNTOWN SOCIAL DISTRICT

The Social District in downtown Bridgman allows customers the flexibility to purchase alcoholic beverages downtown and consume them while walking or sitting within the boundaries of the district.

This is a perfect opportunity to grab a drink while you wait for availability to dine at a restaurant. It also creates the opportunity for different people in your party to select drinks and food from different restaurants and dine together at the City of Bridgman Courtyard within the Social District. Think of it like a food court.

Current participating businesses include Lake Time Brewing, Lake Street Eats and Transient Artisan Ales.

Where can I sit?

You may eat or consume alcoholic beverages served in designated Social District cups at any City of Bridgman benches and cafe tables found within the boundaries of the Social District.

Businesses that provide their own cafe seating in front of their business along Lake Street, may permit customers to consume Social District beverages while dining at their tables. (Please ask at individual businesses.)

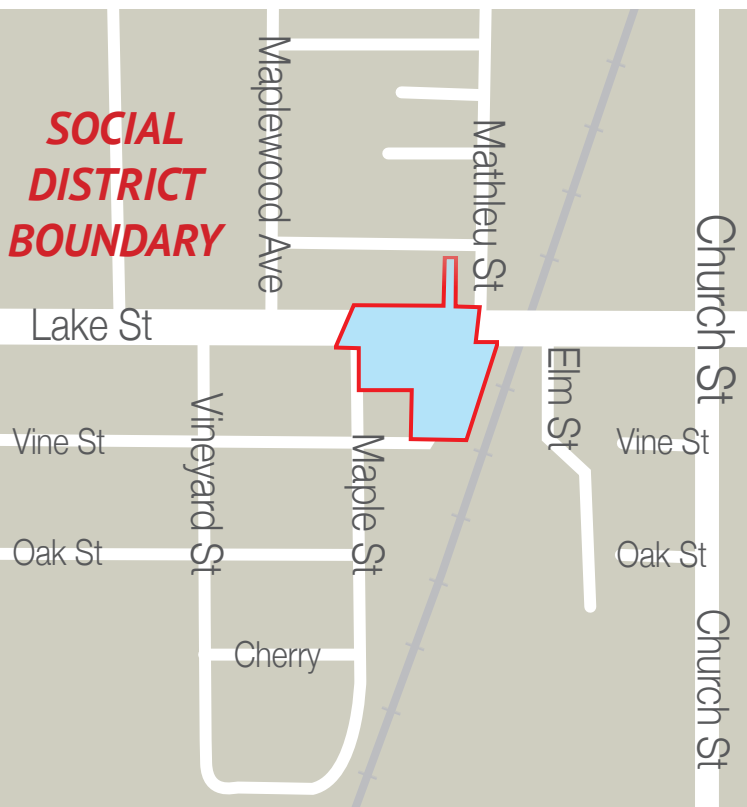
What types of alcoholic beverages can I purchase to carry around the Social District?

Beer, wine and liquor are allowable drinks when served in a designated Social District cup. Drinks must be purchased from a licensed business within the Social District.

Can I walk anywhere with my drink?

No. You may only walk on public property within the designated Social District boundaries. Leaving the Social District with an alcoholic beverage or trespassing on private property violates State and local law. Scan this code for more social district information.

(Source: www.bridgman.org)



Hummingbird Fashions



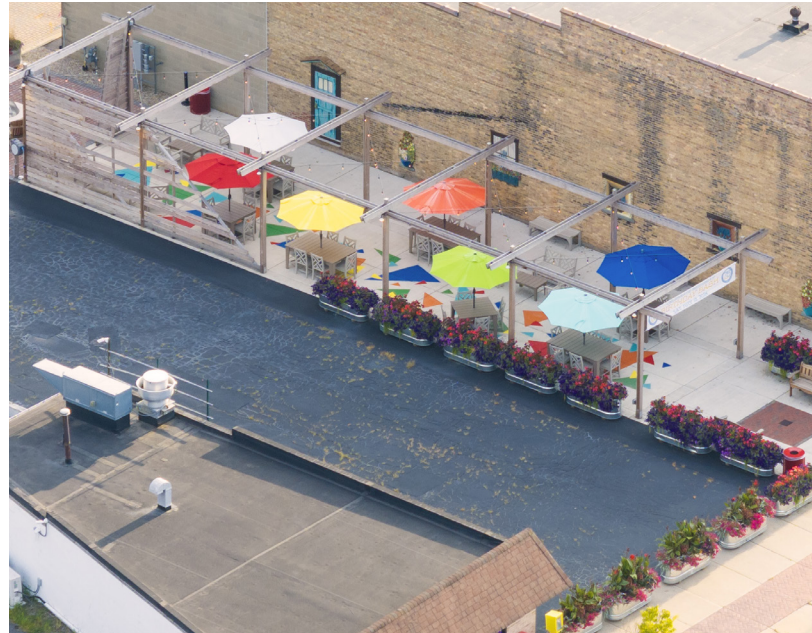
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SHOPPING DOWNTOWN BRIDGMAN

Downtown Bridgman offers a refreshingly relaxed shopping experience filled with small-town charm and unique discoveries. Whatever you are looking for, Bridgman will have you covered. If you love artisan-made gifts, check out The Sandpiper located downtown. (See ad on page 10.) Looking for stylish new home décor? Stop into Accents at Himalaya Textiles and browse their wide variety of rugs, stained glass, pillows, clothing, and more. (See ad on page 3.) Bridgman's walkable downtown delivers big personality in a cozy package.

Start your stroll at one of the locally owned boutiques, where you'll find everything from coastal-inspired fashion to handmade candles and Michigan-themed keepsakes. Pop into shops offering vintage finds, curated clothing collections, and whimsical accessories, such as Hummingbird Fashions. (See ad on page 20.) Bridgman's retailers pride themselves on friendly service, thoughtful inventory, and a passion for all things local.

In between shops, grab a coffee from the charming café Rising Kites Coffee Shop. Seasonal window displays, community events, and a laid-back pace make shopping here more than just a stop—it's part of the Bridgman experience.

For those who love to shop small and support local makers, downtown Bridgman is a must-visit destination. Come for the beach, stay for the browsing!





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