# East Central Michigan

From small towns to urban neighborhoods, lakefront homes to downtown loft apartments, horse farms to golf course properties, east central Michigan suits any lifestyle. Anchored by Flint and connected to Canada by the Blue Water Bridge, this is a region were possibility meets practicality.

# Hey Veteran.

- Saginaw Bay is world famous for its trophy walleye fishing. The dedicated Sailors at Coast Guard Station Saginaw River will do their best to make sure you have a safe day on the water.
- I can see Canada from my porch!
   Take the family to lunch in a foreign country and be home in time for dinner. Port Huron sits at the juncture of the St. Clair River and Lake Huron and is rich with military history.
- A short drive to the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center, a premiere veteran medical treatment facility.



#### Amazing

- The Thumb Area of Michigan's mitten boasts 150 miles of shoreline, 2,100 miles of rivers and streams, 51,000 acres of public recreation land and 49,000 acres of state game and wildlife areas.
- St. Clair County is home to the Annual Port Huron-to-Mackinac Sailboat Race, the largest freshwater sailing event of its kind in the world.
- Seven Ponds Nature Center is a nature sanctuary, environmental education center and a peaceful retreat with seven glacial lakes, a cedar swamp, woodlands, wetlands and a reconstructed prairie.
- The Lapeer County Courthouse is the oldest continually operating courthouse in Michigan and one of the 10 oldest courthouses in the U.S.



#### Culture

- The Flint Symphony Orchestra is one of the finest orchestras of its size in the nation.
- Port Huron's vibrant Studio 1219, with five galleries and a pottery studio, is the largest public art facility in Michigan's Thumb region.
- Enjoy live theater in Owosso at the state-ofthe-art and LEED certified Lebowsky Center.
- The Flint Children's Museum's Sproutside is a Nature Explore-certified outdoor classroom.



# Top employers

- Diplomat Specialty Pharmacy
- Machine Tool & Gear
- McLaren Health Care
- Pinnacle Foods Group
- SMR Automotive



## Good times

- Farmers' markets throughout the region bring the harvest home, providing the freshest foods for the family table and to the growing number of farm-to-table restaurants.
- The Thumbs Up Wine Trail, meandering for 270 miles round trip, consists of vineyards, wineries, meadery and a cider house.
- St. Clair County offers unmatched kayaking, whether in the marshes of the St. Clair Flats the nation's largest freshwater delta—or along the 10.2-mile Island Loop, Michigan's first and only link to the National Water Trail System.
- Ride the North Pole Express at the Steam
  Railroading Institute or visit the Durand Union
  Station to get a glimpse at the region's rich
  railroading history.
- Genesee County Parks is Michigan's largest county park system with more than 11,000 acres of woods, rivers, lakes, trails, beaches and campgrounds.



### Be more smart

- There are many universities, community colleges, and trade schools located within the region, including: University of Michigan–Flint, Baker College, Mott Community College, and St. Clair County Community College.
- The Flint School of Performing Arts (FSPA) is Michigan's largest community school of the arts and among the largest in the United States.
- The innovative Blue Water Middle College Academy provides students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and an associate degree at no cost by attending school for an extra year.