Great Lakes Bay Region

From the bustle of downtown Saginaw to the quiet agricultural communities of Gratiot County, the Great Lakes Bay Region spans across diverse communities throughout the heart of Michigan. The region's blue collar heritage combines with world-class culture to provide a great place-to live, thrive, and simply enjoy.

Hey Veteran!

- The Military and Space Museum in Frankenmuth has a tank and F-4 jet on display, as well as military uniforms and information on Michigan war veterans.
- 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.
- Saginaw is home to the brave soldiers of the Michigan Army National Guard 125th Infantry Regiment, with a long history of stellar service from France to Afghanistan.
- Move over, Wisconsin! Pinconning, MI, was chosen as the "Cheese Capital of the World." That's okay, Milwaukee, at least you have your beer-oh, wait...

"Beer City, USA" is also in Michigan!



You're joking?

- The region is home to over 69,000 acres of state game and wildlife areas to hunt deer, turkey, waterfowl, and other small game.
- In Frankenmuth, Michigan's No.1 tourist destination, visitors enjoy the German atmosphere found year round in the downtown shops and restaurants.
- Birch Run Premium Outlets is a large outlet mall boasting over 145 brand name stores.

Culture

- Saginaw Valley State University houses the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery, a permanent collection of more than 200 works by the world famous sculptor.
- Explore the Japanese Cultural Center and Tea House, one of only five authentic Japanese teahouses in the country.
- At the State Theater in Bay City you'll find an art-deco venue from the 1930s where you can watch the symphony, see a jazz concert, or catch classic movies on the silver screen.
- Experience Midland's Dow Gardens, the 110-acre botanical garden that Herbert Dow developed over a century ago right in his very own backyard.

Good times

- Sports lovers will enjoy cheering on the Great Lakes Loons minor league baseball team and the Saginaw Spirit hockey team.
- Bike or hike the Pere Marquette Trail, a flat straightaway trail that extends 30 miles between Midland and Clare.
- Travel down one of the region's scenic rivers, such as Arenac County's Rifle River or the 30-mile Pine River Canoe Trial in Gratiot County.
- Try your luck at one of the region's award winning casinos—Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort or Saganing Eagles Landing Casino.



Be more smart

- The region is home to three universities and one community college, with 19 universities and eight community colleges within 50 miles.
- Four Great Lakes Bay Region high schools were ranked in Michigan's Top 60 schools.
- The region has one of the highest concentrations of Ph.D.s in the U.S. and continually tops the charts for the most registered patents in the U.S.



Top employers

- Covenant HealthCare
- Dow Chemical Company
- Dow Corning/Hemlock Semiconductor
- Mid-Michigan Medical Center
- Nexteer Automotive

