

Take a Break and Relax at

BAY CITY

Have you ever visited a new place and felt ‘wow’ about it? For many visitors, it happens at Bay City.

Bay City may not be as popular as other cities in the United States, but don’t let that fool you. Bay City is a smaller but beautiful upcoming tourist destination that is worth a visit. You will be surprised by some of the unique things to do and places you can explore while at the Convention.

Many folks that have spent a few hours, or a few days, of a side trip here while traveling to Ann Arbor, Detroit, or Mackinac Island have wished to revisit someday, to take a break and relax at Bay City.

Bay City is one of the tri-cities that make up the Mid-Michigan region, along with Saginaw and Midland. Saginaw was known as an automotive town, and hosts two of the world’s largest foundries which provided raw materials for a number of war efforts. Midland is home to Dow Chemical. Bay City, which sits at the mouth of the Saginaw River, was at the heart of Michigan’s lumber industry. Lumber baron homes still line blocks of Center Avenue.

If you are not sure if Bay City should be included in your Convention plans, you will be pleasantly surprised when you do so. As is not often the case in other convention cities, everything in Bay City is laid back, casually paced and centrally located.

Within a few blocks of the Doubletree hotel are specialty shops, pubs, restaurants and one of Michigan’s largest antique malls. Across the street from the hotel is the Delta College planetarium which offers seasonal programs each Saturday. A leisurely stroll awaits along the Riverwalk which lines both banks of the Saginaw river that divides the city, or make the 25 minute drive to Midland to take in the beauty of the Dow Gardens. Be sure to include in you visit one of our two tours.

Most importantly, the Freshmen will be here. Make plans to join them.

Tour # 1

We will embark by bus at 8:30 am for a short drive to the village of Frankenmuth. Frankenmuth is proud to be one of Michigan’s premiere vacation destinations, second only to Mackinac Island. Known as “Michigan’s Little Bavaria,” Frankenmuth has a proud German heritage that lives on with places like the Bavarian Inn, Zehnder’s, Frankenmuth Oktoberfest, and more. As a Pure Michigan partner, Frankenmuth shares its story, its tradition, its passion, and friendly ways with a myriad of visitors every year.

After a short tour of the village, the buses will continue to Bronner’s the world’s largest CHRISTmas store. Bronner’s features over 50,000 trims and gifts for all seasons, reasons, and budgets. There is also Bronner’s Hummel collection of over 1000 figurines, one of most every subject produced for purchase under Goebel and Bronner’s collection of Precious Moments. A total of 570 Nativities from 65 nations are part of Bronner’s collection on display in the program center. More than 300 decorated trees are displayed in Bronner’s salesroom. Over two million guests visit annually from throughout the world.

There are many reasons Frankenmuth is known as “Michigan’s Little Bavaria” and German food is just one of them. From Bronner’s we will sample some of that as we visit the Bavarian Inn for lunch. There’s something special about coming to the Bavarian Inn Restaurant to enjoy a home-cooked meal. Since 1888, more than 20 million guests have returned to feast on their world-famous “all-you-can-eat” family-style dinners

After lunch there will be time to visit the shops near the Bavarian Inn, take a carriage ride through the village, or sample some famous Mackinac Island fudge, made as you watch, before boarding the buses for a return to the hotel. Cost \$52

Tour # 2

We will embark by trolley to drive by some of Bay City’s finest example of Victorian and lumber baron homes, on the roundabout way to “City Market”. While there you will have the opportunity to watch the making of Michigan’s famous Mackinac Island fudge, before partaking of a tasting of Michigan wines. Each guest will be provided with “market dollars” which can be used at any of the over 15 specialty shops, or 5 restaurants. The market is within walking distance of the Doubletree for those who wish to stroll back, or shuttles will be available for a return to the hotel. Cost \$40

