

Local Information and Activities

Front Street, the main shopping thoroughfare, is a bustling place with more than 150 boutiques, galleries, restaurants and coffee shops, but it has the kind of small-town flavor that makes you want to stay around just to enjoy the feeling. Just around the corner, on Union Street, is the small but captivating Old Town district, and a few blocks to the west is the Grand Traverse Commons, where the rambling Victorian-Italianate buildings of a 19th century asylum are being redeveloped into an elegant new retail district.

Within the compact waterfront area of Traverse City you can enjoy discovering many unique culinary treats created by local artisans. Many can be explored by foot and a few only a short drive away. Livability.com has rated Traverse City as the #1 “Foodie City” in America.

The Traverse City region has a total of 180 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and 149 deep, aqua-colored lakes that are 10 acres or larger in size. Spend an afternoon on one of the many remote beaches or one of the many beaches right in Traverse City.

Located on the 45th parallel, Traverse City is home to vintners who grow grapes and bottle wines on the scenic Old Mission and Leelanau Peninsulas. Visitors can enjoy days of touring and tastings at beautiful wineries located on some of the most breathtaking sites in the area.

Traverse City is the ideal starting point for any boating adventure. Take your choice from cabin cruisers, catamarans, personal watercraft, sailing, surfboards, ski boats, pontoon boats or one of the picturesque tall ships.

A sampling of historic sites in the area are:

Old Mission Village, Downtown Front Street, Park Place Hotel, Grand Traverse Heritage Center, Sleder’s Family Tavern, Mission Point Lighthouse, and much more. More detailed information can be found on www.visittraversecity.com

The following optional activities will be offered by the Symposium Committee Monday afternoon, June 6:

Visit the Wine Country - \$60.00 per person

Tall Ship Sailing - \$60.00 per person

Catamaran Sail - \$66.00 per person