TRAVEL GUIDE TO THE GREAT LAKES

TRIANGULAR HOLIDAY

MANISTEE

1. Bowers Harbor Yacht Club
   14039 Peninsula Drive
   The main location for Hale Away starring Josh Lucas.

2. Downtown Traverse City
   100 East Front Street
   This is where the car crash scene in Hale Away was filmed.

MANISTEE

3. Ramsdell Inn
   399 River Street
   Renovated in 2005, its 1895 Victorian architecture has been lovingly preserved. The inn was used for Stahlman's office and the Union Bank and Trust in the Manistee Matson and the Copperhead Conspiracy.

4. Ramsdell Theatre
   101 Maple Street
   When a group was formed to guide a major restoration of the theater, James Earl Jones, who recently used it as itself in Return to the Hiding Place, is one of the key players. The Ramsdell Theatre was recently used as itself in Manistee Matson.

5. Manistee City Hall
   280 Washington Street
   Manistee City Hall was used in the WWII-period film Return to the Hiding Place.

6. Lighthouse Park
   between First St. and Fifth Ave. beaches
   The lighthouse and the beach were used in Manistee Matson.

7. 5.5. City of Milwaukee
   National Historic Landmark
   The interior of the historic Great Lakes car ferry was used as the thriller Deadrise.

8. Former Ludington State Bank
   124 South James Street
   This building was used for the bank robbery scene in 30 Minutes or Less as well as the Northwestern Bank in Mickey Matson and the Copperhead Conspiracy.

9. Cartier Mansion B&B
   409 East Ludington Avenue
   Built of Roman-presized brick and trimmed with Bedford limestone, the three-story mansion was the home of Warren Cartier, mayor of Ludington, partner of the lumber firm Bath & Cartier, and founder of the Ludington State Bank. This is the large mansion used in Mickey Matson.

10. Historic White Pine Village
    1687 South Lakeshore Drive
    Historic White Pine Village opened in 1976 and is set upon 13 beautiful acres overlooking Lake Michigan. This historic tourist spot was used for a Civil War reenactment scene for Mickey Matson and the Copperhead Conspiracy.

11. Ottawa County Olive Shores County Park
    1158 South Shore Drive, Holland
    This beautiful historic estate and gardens were extensively used in the independent film Return to the Hiding Place, which tells the story of Dutch immigrants who risked their lives to save Jews during WWII.

12. Windmill Island Park
    Holland
    Windmill Island features the 249-year old working Dutch windmill “De Zwaan,” which means graceful bird. In the spring, see more than 150,000 tulips in bloom here. This unique location can be seen in the children’s feature film Road to Perdition.

13. Wiersma’s Central Park Foods
    409 East Ludington Avenue
    Formerly a hardware store in the 1890s, this building was used as a bar in the film Hide Away starring John Belushi.

14. Felt Estate
    6597 138th Avenue, Holland
    The Lake Effect was “deposited” in this cave. This became the inspiration for the 1903 silent film They Great Train Robbery.

15. Oval Beach
    698 Water Street, Saugatuck
    Oval Beach is rated by Conde Nast’s Traveler Magazine as one of the top 25 best shorelines in the world. MTV used Oval Beach as one of the top five beaches in the country. Virginia, starring Ed Harris and Jennifer Connelly, filmed here.

16. Penn Valley Vineyards
    310 Butler Street, Saugatuck
    With an outdoor tasting room and a beautiful view of the Saugatuck River, Penn Valley Vineyards is a must-visit for wine lovers.

17. South Haven Center for the Arts
    600 Phoenix Road, South Haven
    South Haven Center for the Arts is a vibrant cultural hub in South Haven, featuring a variety of events and exhibitions.

18. Railroad Café
    555 Railroad Street, Bangor
    Owned and operated by the Ratzlaff family, the café sits in the fully restored Bangor train depot.

19. Bell’s General Store
    355 East Kalamazoo Avenue
    This world-famous brewery has been a favorite Michigan locale since 1855. Since then, Bell’s has expanded to employ more than 160 workers across 18 states and brews more than 20 beers.

20. Tot to Teen Village
    229 West Kilgore Road
    For over 70 years, Tot to Teen Village has provided the greater Kalamazoo area with the highest quality products and the best customer service. The Lake Effect used this store as a fantastic local location for this heartwarming family drama.

21. Kalamazoo College
    200 Academy Street
    K-College is one of the only universities in Michigan that truly doubles for an East Coast Ivy League school. Cherry shot here over the summer of 2006.

22. Niles Train Station
    598 Dey Street, Niles
    Built in 1875 and still in use as a passenger depot, the station has changed little from its original structure. Continental Divide, starring John Belushi, Only the Lonely, starring John Candy, and Midnight Run, starring Robert De Niro, all filmed at the station. It was also featured in Planes, Trains and Automobiles.

23. Bear Cave Resort
    4085 Bearcave Road, Buchanan
    It played a significant part in the Underground Railroad during the period of slavery. In 1873, the “fort” from an Ohio bank robbery was “deposited” in this cave. This became the inspiration for the 1903 silent film They Great Train Robbery.
The Michigan Film Office was created in 1979 to assist and attract incoming production companies and to promote film industry growth.

GRAND RAPIDS AREA

1. Vito’s Pizza
   658 Fulton Street
   For the film 90 Minutes or Less, the building was painted, new signs were made and the dining area was staged with worn-out booths and tables. In the surprise of zombies, stars Jesse Eisenberg actually delivered pizzas around town and Nick Swarison rolled the dough.

2. Railroad Bridge
   240 Front Avenue SW
   This railroad bridge is seen throughout the film 90 Minutes or Less.

3. Grand Rapids Public Museum
   272 Pearl Street NW
   This incredible museum was the first to be accredited by the American Association of Museums (in 1971). It boasts amazing exhibits, including a whale skeleton suspended from the ceiling and the planetarium used as a featured location in The Genesis Code.

4. MacCap Coffee Company
   98 Monroe Center Street NW
   After a three-car crash, and many takes of 50 Cent firing off machine guns, The Setup capped off the day of filming by blasting out the windows of this popular café in downtown Grand Rapids.

5. Division Ave. and Cherry St. SE
   Cop car crash scene
   Commerce Ave. SW and Oakes St. SW
   Datsun flip stunt
   Grand Rapids played center role in one of Michigan’s biggest action sequences. Days were spent walking through logistics, shutting down streets and preparing for the stunt-heavy car chase in 30 Minutes or Less.

6. 6th Street Bridge
   Monroe Avenue NW and 6th Street NW
   Constructed in 1886, this bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Thirty Minutes or Less showcased this beautiful piece of Grand Rapids history throughout the film.

7. Belknap Park
   Fairview Avenue NE
   Belknap Park has served as the home field of Raider baseball, softball and tennis for more than 40 years. This is where Touchback filmed to depict Coldwater Point.

8. Taco Boy
   3475 Plainfield Avenue NE
   This local food favorite is the location where Danny McBride and Nick Swardson devise an ingenious robbery plan for the comedy feature 30 Minutes or Less.

9. DJ’s Cocktail Lounge
   1740 28th Street SE
   A classic 1950s-style diner that originated in New Jersey, the diner was moved to one piece to its current location. It is the perfect spot for any period film and was the main diner location for Touchback, starring Brian Posey and Kurt Russell.

10. Pal’s Diner
    6503 28th Street SE
    A classic 1950s-style diner that originated in New Jersey, the diner was moved to one piece to its current location. It is the perfect spot for any period film and was the main diner location for Touchback, starring Brian Posey and Kurt Russell.

NOTABLE NEARBY AREAS

**Soybean Farm**
14556 48th Avenue, Coopersville
This area was used for the exterior of the soybean farm and the emotional finale of the film Touchback.

**Coopersville High School**
198 East Street, Coopersville
This charming rural town was used for most of the film Touchback. The high school football stadium was used for all of the game filming.

**Bass River Recreation Area**
Bass River Road, Ottawa
This 1,665-acre site consists of meadows, open brush land, mature hardwoods, small ponds and the 300-acre Max Lake. This was where the skinny dipping swimming scene was filmed for Touchback.

Other films that have lensed in Grand Rapids:
- Postmark Paradise (2000)
- Road to Perdition (2002)
- The Steam Experiment (2009)
- The Last Stand (2012)
- The Christmas Bunny (2010)
- The Heat (2013)
- The Smurfs (2011)
- The Smurfs 2 (2013)
- The Smurfs 3 (2017)
- The Muppets (2011)
- The Muppets Take Manhattan (1984)
- The Muppets Most Wanted (2014)
- The Muppets Show (1978)

For more than 30 years, the Michigan Film Office has been supporting Michigan media industries and positioning Michigan as a worldwide production destination. Since 2008, we’ve wrapped more than 160 projects, including large blockbuster studio features, award winning independent films, and a network television series. However, Michigan’s history of filmmaking goes back much further. In 1926, MGM shot Speed, starring James Stewart, at the Chrysler Corporation testing grounds. Marquette, in the Upper Peninsula, provided the setting for Anatomy of a Murder, filmed in 1959. In 1975, another classic, Somewhere in Time, filmed at the beautiful Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. Michigan has been on the silver screen for decades.

Memorable movies filmed in Michigan

**The Evil Dead**
(Beverly Hills Cop) (1984)
Midnight Run (1988)
Beverly Hills Cop II (1987)
Action Jackson (1988)
Presumed Innocent (1989)
Roger and Me (1989)
Hoofa (1992)
True Romance (1993)
Grosse Pointe Blank (1997)
Detroit Rock City (1999)
'61 (2000)
American Pie 2 (2001)
8 Mile (2002)
Below (2002)
Road to Perdition (2002)
Four Brothers (2005)
The Island (2005)
Upside of Anger (2005)
Dreamgirls (2006)
Semi-Pro (2007)
Transformers (2007)
Gran Torino (2008)
Jumper (2008)
Capitalism: A Love Story (2009)
Conviction (2009)
Hung (2009–2011)
Up in the Air (2009)
Whip It (2009)
Detroit 187 (2010)
Hostel: Part III (2010)
Machine Gun Preacher (2010)
Stone (2010)
You Don’t Know Jack (2010)
30 Minutes or Less (2011)
Cedar Rapids (2011)
The Ides of March (2011)
LOL (2011)
Real Steel (2011)
Scary 3D (2011)
Transformers: Dark of the Moon (2011)
Vamps (2011)
A Very Harold and Kumar Christmas (2011)
Alex Cross (2012)
AWOL (2012)
Five Year Engagement (2012)
The Giant Mechanical Man (2012)
High School (2012)
Red Dawn (2012)
Sparkle (2012)
Oz: The Great and Powerful (2013)

For more information about Michigan Filming Locations, visit the website:
MichiganFilmOffice.org

We’re ready for our close-up
West Michigan is a special place, where sparkling blue water meets golden sand beaches—recognized as some of the best in the world. Take in an exhibit of fine art or savor a culinary experience that showcases the region’s rich and varied agricultural offerings. Here you will find the vacation mecca of Traverse City; quaint beach towns like Ludington, Manistee, Holland and South Haven; and the cultural and entertainment hot spots of Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo. West Michigan combines majestic beauty with sophistication and a welcoming atmosphere up and down the Lake Michigan coastline.

It is in these diverse settings that producers, directors and stars have found inspiration and discovered and embraced the area’s passion, creativity and strong work ethic. It’s a perfect place for storytellers and moviemakers.