

ITINERARY: SANDUSKY OHIO

EXPLORE

Sitting at the heart of the Great Lakes, Sandusky serves as the seat of Erie County with 68 miles of freshwater Lake Erie shoreline. From there, it is just a hop, skip, and a jump to a handful of distinct islands. South Bass Island is home to Put-in-Bay—a Midwestern hot spot with rooftop eateries, poolside bars, and historic sites like the 352-foot-tall **Perry's Victory & International Peace Memorial**. The former **Lonz Winery** on Middle Bass Island has been converted into a bed-and-breakfast, coffee shop, waterfront patio bar, and speakeasy, all within **Middle Bass Island State Park**.

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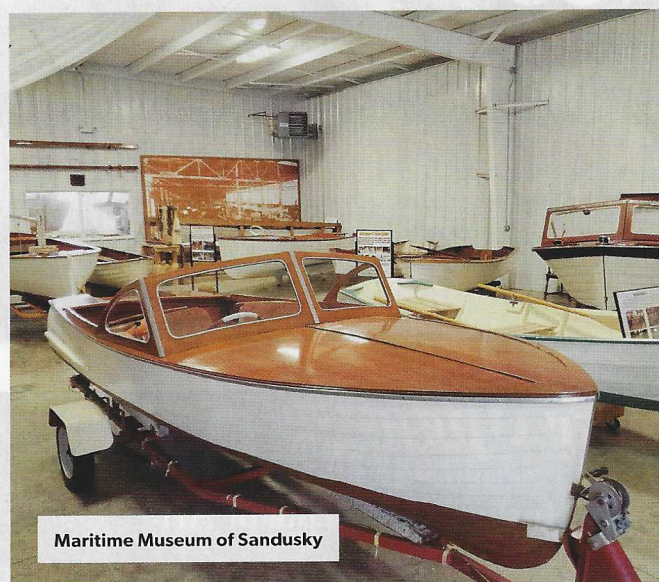
Marblehead Lighthouse—the oldest operating beacon on the American side of the Great Lakes—has been guiding mariners along this rocky shore since 1822. Visitors today can climb the 77 steps to the top for an amazing view of the area. During the Civil War, slaves seeking freedom via the Underground Railroad found Sandusky a safe haven. Exhibits telling their story can be found in both the **Maritime Museum of Sandusky** and the **Follett House Museum**—located in the former home of abolitionists Oran and Eliza Follet.

SIP

Agricultural roots run deep in this region, including a rich viticultural history. **Firelands Winery** is one of the oldest, largest, and most award-winning wineries in Ohio, dating back to 1880. Sitting on 41 acres, the winery offers curated wine flights and a small-plate menu, along with year-round tours. For a beer-centric experience, seek out **Twin Oast Brewing** in Port Clinton. This family-friendly campus is spread out over 60 acres complete with two decorative oasts—European-inspired kilns used for drying hops—along with a locally sourced food menu and live music. Private brewery tours are included with scheduled beer pairing dinners, held on the second Friday of each month.



Middle Bass Island State Park



Maritime Museum of Sandusky

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