



Events & Activities

THINGS TO DO

JANUARY

- RIVER RAISIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD COMMEMORATION

FEBRUARY

- MONROE MAGAZINE ARTIST SHOWCASE
IHM Motherhouse
- MCLS BLACK HISTORY MONTH BLUES SERIES
Various library branches and La-Z-Boy Center-Meyer Theater/MCCC Campus

MAY

- RIVER RAISIN JAZZ SERIES (MAY-AUGUST)
Downtown Monroe Restaurants

JUNE

- RIVER RAISIN FIFE AND DRUM MUSTER
Loranger Square, Downtown Monroe
- CONCERTS IN THE PARK (JUNE-AUGUST)
St. Mary's Park



JULY

- RIVER RAISIN INDEPENDENCE FESTIVAL FIREWORKS
Sterling State Park
- LOTUS TOUR OF MARSHES OF LAKE ERIE

AUGUST

- MONROE COUNTY FAIR
- RIVER RAISIN JAZZ FESTIVAL
St. Mary's Park, Downtown Monroe
- DOWNTOWN MONROE FINE ART FAIR
Downtown Monroe
- MONROE COUNTY JAM AND RIVER RAISIN RIB-OFF
Monroe County Fairgrounds

SEPTEMBER

- RIVER RAISIN LABOR DAY BBQ
Downtown Monroe

OCTOBER

- CUSTER WEEK
Downtown Monroe
- LANTERN TOURS
Navarre-Anderson Trading Post

NOVEMBER

- WRITERS ON THE RIVER
Ellis Library and Reference Center
- HOLIDAY KICKOFF WEEKEND
Downtown Monroe

Partners



RIVER RAISIN

HERITAGE TRAIL

MONROE • MICHIGAN
MAP AND GUIDE

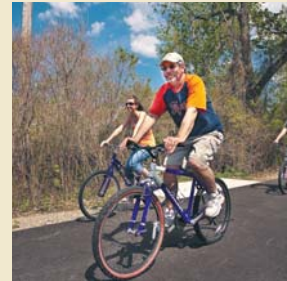


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RIVER RAISIN HERITAGE TRAIL SYSTEM



Welcome to the River Raisin Heritage Trail System, where eight miles of paved hike-bike trails provide safe and scenic routes to walk, run, cycle and in-line skate. The trail connects major historic sites, state and local parks, nationally significant buildings, monuments and important natural and ecological features. Parking areas and facilities can be found along the trails for your convenience.

Historic Downtown

THINGS TO SEE

Monroe is one of the oldest communities in the state of Michigan boasting a long and illustrious history and strong ties to the area's original French habitants. Monroe was also the site of one of the bloodiest battles of the War of 1812—the significance of which has been recognized with the River Raisin Battlefield's designation as the newest unit of the National Park Service.

Monroe hosts the River Raisin Jazz Festival – the largest free festival in southeastern Michigan, and the “coolest” place to be in August. The festival is held at St. Mary's Park,

on the banks of the historic River Raisin, just a stone's throw from the General George A. Custer Equestrian Monument—which recently celebrated its 100th anniversary. Quaint shops, restaurants and cafes, historic neighborhoods, and an eclectic mix of architecture are only part of Monroe's unique charm. The city, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, and community partners recently christened the River Raisin Heritage Trail connecting the William C. Sterling State Park to the River Raisin Battlefield National Park – unique to say the least.



EIGHT MILES OF WILDERNESS, RECREATION AND HISTORY

Enjoy the Experience



ENJOY THE WATER

Sterling State Park, the only state park on Lake Erie, includes over one mile of beaches, boating, shore fishing and fishing lagoons, and lakefront camping. The trail parallels the River Raisin which is canoeable for much of its length and provides a scenic backdrop for any adventure.



ENJOY THE SITES

The trail takes you through the River Raisin National Battlefield Park, past iconic buildings, and into historic neighborhoods. The route encourages short detours into walkable downtown Monroe with destinations that include quaint shops, fashionable restaurants, and an outstanding museum and library.



ENJOY OUR HISTORY

Founded in 1785, Monroe is Michigan's third oldest City. The trail takes you right through the heart of one of the bloodiest battles in the War of 1812. The city is also the hometown of General George Armstrong Custer, a Civil War hero who is best known for his demise in the Battle of Little Bighorn. Historical markers and monuments dot the route to bring the stories alive.

