



## Lake Erie Shores & Islands®

- [Cedar Point](#) is well known as the world's greatest amusement park, with more rides and more coasters than any other! New for 2010 is [Shoot the Rapids](#), a thrilling water adventure for the whole family! Cedar Point is investing \$10.5 million in this new water flume ride. The 3-minute boat ride features two lift hills at 85' and 49' tall respectively, along with surprise water elements and special effects. The 2,100-foot-long journey ends with a "shoot" through water rapids. This exciting new addition to the park will be ready for opening day, May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Sandusky's [Merry-Go-Round Museum](#) prepares to celebrate its 20th anniversary with a rare and exciting exhibit. "Wild!" will debut in March with carousel animals from private collections, many of which have never been on public display before. The animals in this two-year exhibition, on loan from collections throughout the country, will include such rare animals as a bison and an alligator. Museum director Vicki Vanden Bout touts "Wild!" as the museum's most important exhibit in its 20-year history.
- The history of winemaking in Ohio can be traced back to the early 1800's. For a long period prior to Prohibition, Sandusky was the largest wine-producing region in the nation. The [Lake Erie Shores & Islands® Wine Trail](#) celebrates that heritage. It is comprised of fifteen Northwest Ohio wineries, four of which are newly established: [Paper Moon Vineyards](#), Vermilion - February 2009; [Vermilion Valley Vineyards](#), Wakeman - October 2009; [D&D Smith Winery](#), Norwalk - November 2009; [Quarry Hill Winery](#), Berlin Heights – currently a tasting counter in a farm market, they are building a new facility to open in March 2010.
- The country's largest indoor waterpark resort is expanding again! The [Kalahari](#) Zip Line Course will be set above the resort's outdoor waterpark, with 6-story towers launching guests on a ride to remember. Designed with an African village theme, the outdoor experience will also include a towering ropes course and rock climbing wall. This brand-new adventure area is part of Kalahari Resort's expanding team-building activities for meetings and conventions, but will be available to all guests. Target opening is late spring 2010.
- The organizers of the Revolution3 triathlon racing series have chosen Lake Erie Shores & Islands and Cedar Point as home for their newest event, the [2010 REV3 Cedar Point Triathlon](#). Race representatives expect top racing talent from all over the world. The race, which is an Ironman-length race, includes swimming, biking and running courses and will offer pro athletes a \$100,000 prize purse. The race will begin and end at Cedar Point and fan out throughout the surrounding Shores & Islands region. Race day is Sunday, September 12.
- Event organizers for [Lake Erie Boat Week](#) have selected Huron as an ideal location for a week-long boating and racing festival in September 2010. The event is scheduled for September 7 – 12 at the Huron Boat Basin. Festival events include a powerboat race sanctioned by the national Powerboat Superleague and a competition to name the "Fastest Boat on Lake Erie." This fantastic event is estimated to attract nearly 100,000 visitors from all over the country and bring in \$5 million to the local economy.

- South Bass Island's [Put-in-Bay Resort](#) is adding to their Caribbean-themed resort with 13 luxury villas, opening mid-May. Each unit will sleep 8 – 10 guests and include three bedrooms, three baths and a full kitchen. This fabulous island resort currently features 68 hotel rooms, full-service conference facilities for 450, on-site golf cart and bicycle rentals, a huge outdoor pool with swim-up bar and the world's largest Jacuzzi.
- [Goodtime I Lake Erie Island Cruises](#) is celebrating 25 years of serving Sandusky and the Lake Erie Islands in 2010. The M/V Goodtime I is a sleek, all-steel vessel built for ocean-going cruises. She is 117 feet long and Coast Guard approved to carry 355 Passengers. The Goodtime I departs from Sandusky Tuesday through Saturday on a Daytime Island-Hopping Cruise, as well as other specialty cruises such as the Tuesday Night Sandusky Bay Cruise and the famous Friday Night Party Cruise. The Goodtime I also is available for private rental, and seasonal special excursions.
- [The Biggest Week in American Birding](#) will take place May 6 – 16 in the Lake Erie Marsh area of Lake Erie Shores & Islands. This inaugural bird festival is hosted by Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Tropical Birding, Kaufman Field Guides, Ottawa Wildlife Refuge and Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. This "birding festival week" will be so jam-packed with workshops, warblers, free guided activities, warblers, half day trips, keynote speakers, workshops, and more warblers that it stretches over 11 days.
- The developers of [American Legends Park](#) broke ground recently on a multi-million-dollar project, aimed at bringing thousands of youth baseball teams (ages 9 – 12) and their families to the region each year. The complex, located across from Kalahari Resort, will feature ball fields, dormitories, retail shops and meeting space. The first phase will include eight ball fields, dorms, a retail and restaurant area and a 2,200-seat "Schlessman Championship Park." The tournament schedule begins with a soft opening in July and a formal grand opening in spring 2011.



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