

Detroit

RSMJ 2025 LOCAL GUIDE



GETTING FROM THE AIRPORT TO DOWNTON

- Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) is about 20 miles southwest of downtown. Here are your best options for getting into the city:
 - Rideshare & Taxis: Uber and Lyft operate at DTW, with pickup zones at both terminals.
 - Rental Cars: If you plan to explore beyond downtown, renting a car is a great option.
 - Public Transit: The SMART bus system offers an Airport Express (Route 261) that connects DTW to downtown Detroit.
- The cost of an Uber or taxi from Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW) to the Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center varies based on the time of day, demand, and ride type.

UBERX

\$50-\$55

TAXI

\$75-\$90



LEGEND

TOWER 100	TOWER 300	TOWER 500 AND 600	PARKING	BIKE RACK	ONE WAY TRAFFIC
TOWER 200	TOWER 400	PEOPLE MOVER STOP	VALET	COVERED WALKWAY	PARKING ENTRANCE/EXIT

PARKING AT THE CONFERENCE HOTEL

If you're renting a car or driving to the hotel, there is parking on-site and nearby. Here are the parking rates:

On-Site Parking

- Hourly: \$6.00
- Daily: \$27.00

Off-Site Parking

- Beaubien Garage provides "in & out" privileges - 0.1 Miles away

Valet

- Daily: \$40.00

There is also an electric car charging station available.

PARKING

WHERE TO EAT

Detroit's food scene is thriving, with options ranging from classic coney diners to upscale dining. Here are some local favorites:

DOWNTOWN DETROIT

- Apparatus Room – Located in the Detroit Foundation Hotel, this spot offers modern American cuisine in a stylish setting.
- Grey Ghost Detroit – Known for its craft cocktails and excellent steaks.
- Vertical Detroit – A wine bar with a fantastic selection and delicious small plates.
- Mom's Spaghetti – Yes, this is Eminem's restaurant, serving up nostalgic comfort food. Don't expect high-quality Italian, but definitely a fun experience!
- Anita's Kitchen – A great spot for Mediterranean cuisine, perfect for a lighter meal.

ACROSS THE CITY

- D.PRIME Steakhouse – Located in the MGM Grand Detroit, this is an upscale steakhouse.
- Andiamo Detroit Riverfront – Italian cuisine with a stunning view of the Detroit River.
- Central Kitchen + Bar – A trendy spot with great cocktails and American fare.

GREEK OPTIONS

Detroit's Greektown has some fantastic Greek restaurants! Here are a few highly-rated spots:

- The Greek – A contemporary Greek restaurant in Greektown serving authentic dishes with fresh ingredients.
- Pegasus Taverna – A long-standing favorite offering traditional Greek cuisine.
- Athens Souvlaki Downtown – Known for its delicious souvlaki and gyros.
- Niki's Pizza – Famous for its Greek-style pizza and other Mediterranean dishes.
- Bakalikon Greek Market and Bar – A unique spot combining a Greek market with a bar, offering a variety of Greek specialties.

SOUL FOOD

Detroit has some fantastic soul food options. Below are some well-rated choices:

Downtown Detroit

- SavannahBlue – A stylish spot serving modern soul food with dishes like shrimp and grits and oxtail stew.
- Fixins Soul Kitchen – A newer addition to Detroit's food scene, offering fried chicken, oxtails, and deep-fried deviled eggs.
- Flood's Bar and Grille – A longtime favorite with Southern-style dishes and live music.
- Steve's Soul Food – A classic soul food joint known for smothered pork chops and collard greens.

Greater Detroit Area

- Southern Fire Bistro & Lounge – A popular spot for catfish, mac and cheese, and candied yams.
- Louisiana Creole Gumbo – A Detroit staple since 1970, serving gumbo, jambalaya, and seafood creole.
- Bert's Marketplace – Located in Eastern Market, offering BBQ, soul food, and live jazz.



Must see attractions

DOWNTOWN & NEARBY

Detroit is packed with history, culture, and entertainment. Here are some highlights:
Downtown & Nearby

- Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA) – Home to one of the best art collections in the country.
- Motown Museum – Visit the birthplace of Motown music and learn about its legendary artists. Tickets can be purchased online; if you want a specific time, it is good to plan this in advance. They do have same day tickets but they are time limited and may run out or there may be some delay between when you pick the tickets up and when you are able to go on the tour.
- Campus Martius Park – A lively downtown space with events and food trucks
- Detroit Riverwalk – A scenic path along the Detroit River, perfect for a stroll.

Beyond Downtown

- Belle Isle Park – A beautiful island park with trails, a conservatory, and an aquarium.
- Eastern Market – A historic market district with fresh produce, local goods, and great restaurants.

DEARBORN

Just 15 minutes west of downtown Detroit, Dearborn is a vibrant city known for its rich automotive history and thriving Middle Eastern culture. Whether you're looking for historic sites, incredible food, or a unique cultural experience, Dearborn has plenty to offer.

Things to See

- The Henry Ford Museum – One of the largest indoor-outdoor museums in the U.S., showcasing American innovation, including the Rosa Parks bus and presidential vehicles.
- Greenfield Village – A living history museum where you can step into the past, ride in a Model T, and visit Thomas Edison's lab.
- Arab American National Museum – The only museum in the U.S. dedicated to Arab American history and culture.
- Ford Rouge Factory Tour – See how Ford trucks are built and learn about the company's impact on the city.



Food & Attractions

DEARBORN CONTINUED

Middle Eastern Restaurants

Dearborn is home to one of the largest concentrations of Middle Eastern restaurants in the U.S., offering everything from Lebanese shawarma to Yemeni-style coffee. Here are some must-try spots:

- Al-Ameer – A James Beard Award-winning Lebanese restaurant known for its fresh hummus and shawarma.
- La Pita – A local favorite serving authentic Middle Eastern dishes like mujadara and kebabs.
- La Shish – A well-loved restaurant serving Lebanese and Mediterranean dishes.
- Sheeba Restaurant – A highly-rated spot offering authentic Middle Eastern flavors.
- Malek Al Kabob – Famous for its grilled meats and generous portions.
- Shatila Bakery – A must-visit for Middle Eastern sweets like baklava and pistachio ice cream.
- Qahwa House – A Yemeni coffee shop offering rich, spiced coffee and Adeni tea.

ANN ARBOR

Ann Arbor is the home to the University of Michigan and is a college town with a vibrant arts scene, excellent restaurants, and plenty of green spaces. It's located about 45 minutes west of downtown Detroit.

Things to See

- University of Michigan Campus – Walk through the historic campus, visit the Law Quad, and explore the Michigan Union.
- Michigan Stadium ("The Big House") – The largest stadium in the U.S., a must-see for sports fans.
- Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum – Beautiful gardens and trails perfect for a relaxing stroll.
- Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum – A fun, interactive science museum for all ages.
- Kerrytown Market & Shops – A charming area with boutique stores, coffee shops, and the famous Zingerman's Deli.



Food continued

ANN ARBOR CONTINUED

Great Restaurants

Ann Arbor's food scene is diverse, offering everything from casual diners to upscale dining. Here are some local favorites:

- Zingerman's Delicatessen – Famous for its sandwiches and deli-style offerings.
- Fleetwood Diner – A classic 24-hour diner known for its Hippie Hash.
- Heidelberg Restaurant & Bar – A German restaurant with hearty dishes and a cozy atmosphere.
- Palio Ann Arbor – Italian cuisine with a rooftop patio.
- Gratzi Ann Arbor – Upscale Italian dining in a stylish setting.
- The Earle Restaurant – French-inspired cuisine with an extensive wine list.
- Mani Osteria & Bar – A trendy spot for wood-fired pizzas and Italian small plates.
- The West End Grill – A fine-dining restaurant known for its steaks and seafood.
- Jolly Pumpkin Café & Brewery – A great place for craft beer and casual bites.