

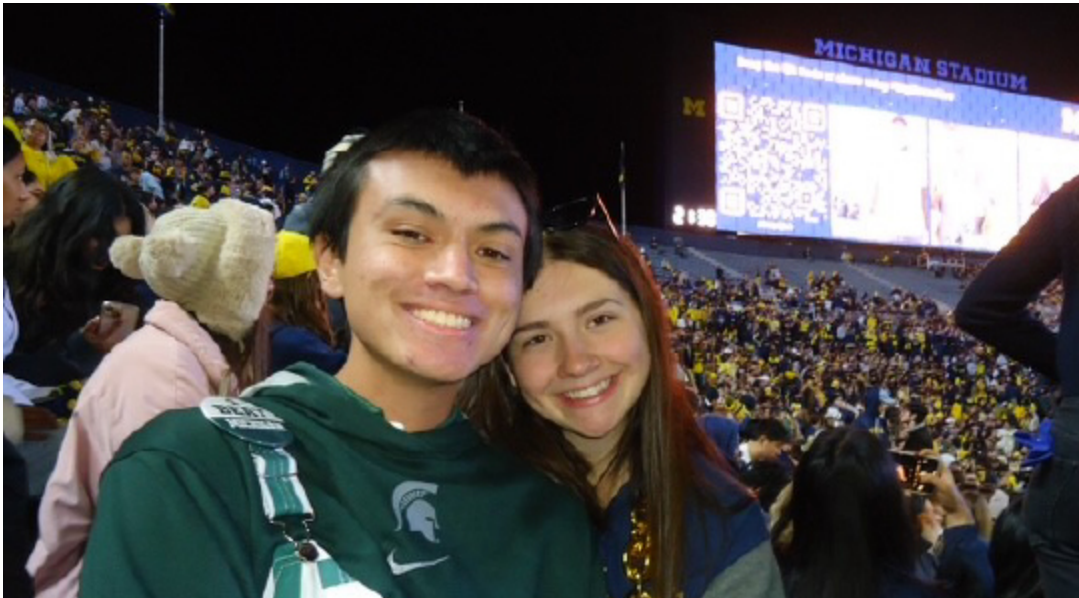
Michigan's premier motorcoach connection between East Lansing, Whitmore Lake, Ann Arbor & Detroit Metro Airport.



Revealing “Love Connections” Contest Winner #2

Our 2025 essay contest asked folks to tell us a great—and true—story about how Michigan Flyer helped to connect them with a special person, place, or adventure dear to their heart. It features a \$500 gift card Top Prize and five \$100 gift card runner-up prizes. Our judges—Michigan Flyer staff and creative consultants—select the winners based on which essays best fit the contest theme. (Note that each winner is notified in the month their entry is to be published.)

We’re very happy to announce that the second of our five runner-up winners is **Molly Evans** of Clinton Township, Mich.



Molly and Lucas at an MSU vs. U-M Game

Molly was elated when she got our call this month that she's our latest contest winner. A junior at the University of Michigan, she's studying industrial and operational engineering. "I was so surprised," she says, adding that it was her first time entering a contest: "Writing isn't really my forte."

Molly became a frequent Michigan Flyer passenger during her first year at U-M as a way to visit close friends at Michigan State University.

"I remember my first time on the Flyer. It was so clean and comfortable, and such easy transportation between Ann Arbor and East Lansing. When I'm on it, I do schoolwork, listen to music, or sometimes just grab a nap."

Her boyfriend, Lucas, who's from Connecticut and attends MSU, also relies on the Michigan Flyer: "He loves it because it's a convenient way for us to see each other and for his trips home."

Molly entered our recent contest because, "I thought our story was a perfect fit," she says. As a student, she plans to use her \$100 gift certificate for either school supplies or items she may need for the new place she's moving into.

Matching in Real Life

By Molly Evans

"While touring Michigan before starting college, I remember the tour guide casually mentioning a bus service—the Michigan Flyer—that connects Ann Arbor to East Lansing and the Detroit airport. At the time, I barely paid attention. I was a permanent Michigan resident, didn't fly much, and had no plans to leave my new college. But life has a funny way of making the smallest details feel monumental in hindsight. I have a few close friends from high school who chose Michigan State, and we'd always promised to stay in touch. After finding my rhythm during my freshman year at U-M, I decided to take the leap and visit my best friend at MSU. Just a casual visit to catch up.

"When I boarded the Michigan Flyer at Blake Transit Center I wasn't expecting anything special—just a trip to reconnect with an old friend. But that night, when I met some of her new MSU friends, one of them stood out instantly. We clicked in a way that caught me off guard. Even with the brief encounter we had, it felt like I had known him for some time. We lost touch for a bit after that, but fate has its own timing. A few months later, he reached out to me out of the blue. One chat turned into daily conversations, and during my sophomore year, we started dating. Now, either he's hopping on the Michigan Flyer from the East Lansing Marriott, or I'm at Blake Transit Center with a duffel bag and energy drink in hand, making that hour-and-a-half trip across our in-state rivalry. We've taken that bus more times than we can count—right after a late class or sometimes at sunrise, just to squeeze in a few more hours together."

Reminder: Our Expanded Schedule Starts Soon!



Starting on Aug. 25, Michigan Flyer expands to 14 daily roundtrips between East Lansing, Whitmore Lake*, Ann Arbor and Detroit Metro Airport. You can [view our old and new schedules here](#).

Most notably, our last daily westbound run from Detroit Metro Airport (DTW) is now an hour later than before. It departs the Evans Terminal at 10:45 p.m. and the McNamara Terminal at 11:00 p.m. This gives travelers the option of reserving flights that arrive at DTW later in the evening and are often less costly than earlier flights.

Similarly, the last eastbound departure from East Lansing is at 6:30 p.m. instead of the former 5:30 p.m. This makes it more practical for college students and others to choose Michigan Flyer for commuting between East Lansing and Ann Arbor.

The new runs are available for [booking now!](#)

At DTW, Michigan Flyer serves both the McNamara and Evans Terminals. Among other benefits, this enables Michigan Flyer passengers from the East Lansing, Whitmore Lake, and Ann Arbor areas to easily connect with Downtown Detroit from the airport. [Detroit Air Xpress](#) or DAX, which connects Downtown Detroit with Detroit Metro Airport, is operated by Michigan Flyer, which connects with DAX at the airport.

In Google Maps, for example, ask for directions from East Lansing to Downtown Detroit and choose the Transit mode of travel (bus icon). Google will then display the options for using [Michigan Flyer plus DAX](#) to make the trip.

*PLEASE NOTE: To more accurately describe the location of boarding points along our route, we've replaced Brighton with Whitmore Lake. That's our actual stop now, and it's about eight miles south of Brighton. Specifically, our location is at the MDOT Park & Ride lot off Exit 53 of U.S. 23 at Whitmore Lake Rd. and 8 Mile Rd. From there, Michigan Flyer continues to serve the people of Brighton and other communities throughout Livingston County.



Travel Alerts

Ann Arbor's Blake Transit Center Bypassed on U-M Football Saturdays

If you are planning a Saturday trip with Michigan Flyer between Ann Arbor and East Lansing or Detroit Metro Airport this fall, please know that on U-M home football game Saturdays **some** of our runs will bypass the BTC on the way to and from the airport. This will affect certain runs before, during, and after the following home games:

Aug. 30, New Mexico, 7:30 p.m.

Sep. 13, Central Michigan, Noon

Oct. 4, Wisconsin, TBA

Oct. 18, Washington, TBA

Nov. 1, Purdue, TBA

Nov. 29, Ohio State, Noon

Please note that **other** Michigan Flyer runs will continue to stop at the BTC on these days. It's easy to find out which ones: Just check the "Book a Trip" feature on our [website](#).

D2A2's "Midnight Summer Run" Ends After Labor Day Weekend

The popular [D2A2 Express Bus](#), which makes frequent daily runs between Ann Arbor's Blake Transit Center (BTC) and Detroit's Grand Circus Park, will soon end the extra "midnight summer run" from Detroit to Ann Arbor that began on Memorial Day weekend. After Labor Day weekend, D2A2 will return to its normal schedule, with the last daily run to Ann Arbor boarding in Detroit at 11 p.m.

Top Sites to See in Greater Lansing

Founded in 1835 and built on a floodplain, Lansing was established as Michigan's State Capital in 1847. Now almost two centuries later, Lansing is an ever-evolving, diverse community, with more to see and do than you can shake a stick at.

But first, a fun fact about Michigan's first governor: Stevens T. Mason. Appointed by President Andrew Jackson as acting territorial governor in 1834 at 22, Mason was then elected governor at age 24 in 1835. He remains the youngest state governor in American history, hence his nickname of the Boy Governor.

Now on to top attractions in Greater Lansing. According to Tripadvisor and Choose Lansing, these include:



Michigan State Capitol

1. The Michigan State Capitol. Step back into the Victorian era with a visit to Michigan's award-winning Capitol. Designed by Elijah E. Myers, one of the foremost architects of public buildings during the Gilded Age (1865-1914), its construction took six years and was completed in 1879. The Capitol welcomes thousands of people of all ages each year to tour the building, watch the legislature meet in session, admire an amazing nine acres of hand-painted decorative art, and learn stories of Michigan's past.

2. Michigan State University Athletics. Few things match the excitement of a Big Ten athletic contest at MSU. When it comes to seeing a football game, every seat in the 75,005-person capacity Spartan Stadium offers a great view. And if the Spartans

aren't contending for a Big Ten title in football, you can catch them battling for supremacy in hockey, basketball, and other sports. Not a fan? No problem. [Visit some of the many other unique attractions on MSU's gorgeous campus.](#)

3 . **Potter Park Zoo.** Founded in 1912, this beautifully landscaped 100-acre park, gardens and zoo are situated in an old oak forest along the Red Cedar River. The zoo features more than 100 species of animals, many endangered, including Black Rhinos, Siberian Tigers, Red Pandas, and Snow Leopards. The park itself is open all year. It offers picnicking, exercise, and playground areas. Open seasonally are camel rides, a petting zoo, food concessions and the Zoovenir Gift Shop.

4. **R.E. Olds Transportation Museum.** Dedicated to Lansing inventor and automotive pioneer Ransom Eli Olds, it's home to 80 vehicles manufactured from 1886 through 2004, when the last Oldsmobile—an Alero sedan—rolled off the assembly line. The museum's extensive collection includes the very first Oldsmobile, built in 1897, along with antique REOs, Stars, automotive advertising, memorabilia, and an exhibit dedicated to First Responders.



Michigan History Center

5. **Michigan History Center.** Home to the Archives of Michigan, the Michigan History Museum, and the Library of Michigan, the History Center offers experiences for visitors of all ages. For example, it tells the stories of Michigan's past from the Ice Age through the late 20th century in special exhibits and 26 permanent galleries. Visitor favorites include a three-story relief map, a mural of traditional Anishinaabe lifeways and culture, an Upper Peninsula copper mine, a one-room schoolhouse, and a 1950s auto show.

6. **Impression 5 Science Center.** A dynamic, interactive space for families to play, create, and challenge their understanding of science, Impression 5 facilitates learners in scientific exploration through hands-on exhibits and participatory programming. It offers two levels of hands-on exhibits with topics like fluid dynamics, kinetic energy, nature, light, and more. Opened in 1972, the Center annually draws more than 160,000 visitors.

7. **Lansing Lugnuts.** The Lansing Lugnuts, a High-A minor league baseball team, are an affiliate of the Oakland Athletics, playing in the Eastern Division of the Midwest

League. Find them and “Go Nuts” at Jackson Field in downtown Lansing, known for family fun at an affordable price. During the year it also hosts other events such as fireworks displays, community concerts and nighttime movies.

8. Old Town. This is Lansing's original downtown. The neighborhood's beautiful Victorian buildings are filled with unique galleries, tasty eateries, quaint boutiques, creative businesses, specialty shops, nightclubs and more. Voted one of the top places to bring visitors and winner of IKEA's Main Street Makeover, Old Town is an urban neighborhood with a smalltown feel. This arts district hosts festivals, gallery walks and farmers markets throughout the year.

9. Lansing River Trail. This 20+ mile trail traces the banks of the Grand and Red Cedar Rivers. It winds through Lansing and East Lansing, passing by artsy Old Town and several parks, historical sites, and urban activity centers. Things to see along the way include Brenke Fish Ladder, where spawning salmon and steelhead fight their way upstream during September; the Turner-Dodge House to the northwest; Potter Park Zoo to the southeast; and Louis F. Adado Riverfront Park, the home of major Lansing festivals.



Wharton Center for the Performing Arts

10. Wharton Center for the Performing Arts. Located on the MSU campus, the Wharton Center brings the best of touring Broadway and performing arts to mid-Michigan. Since 1982, the Wharton Center has enjoyed state and national prominence for hosting mega hits and sold-out sensations. It also commissions new works by up-and-coming artists.

For even more fascinating places to see and experience in Michigan's Capital City, check out Tripadvisor [here](#) and Choose Lansing [here](#).

Top Coming Events–We Can Get You There!

East Lansing



Farmers Markets at the Capitol

Visit the grounds of the Michigan State Capitol and shop at Farmers Markets on two upcoming Tuesdays—Aug. 26 and Sept. 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.—where admission is FREE. These events, organized by the Michigan Farmers Market Association, offer a cornucopia of fruits and vegetables,

flowers and plants, jams and jellies, breads and baked goods, snacks and sweet treats, ready-to-eat foods, honey and maple syrup, meat, salsas, dips, pickled products, soaps, and more. And if you get hungry looking at all the fantastic foods, you can also visit any of the many food trucks parked along Capitol Avenue on market day.

Check out more local coming events with the Choose Lansing calendar:

<http://www.lansing.org/events>.

Kommuna Lux - Fundraiser Concert for the People of Ukraine

Come fall in love with Odesa, Ukraine—the Pearl of the Black Sea—as Kommuna Lux brings you the heritage music of their beloved hometown. This “Odesa Gangsta Folk” group stirs the crowd with a high-energy Big Band sound from the days of speakeasies and rum runners.



Playful, passionate, and conservatory-trained, these musicians have so much fun on stage that you’ll get swept up in their joy. Catch them at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 27, at UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [Tickets \\$22+fee general admission](#); reserved seating also available.

You can get to UrbanBeat from Michigan Flyer’s location at the East Lansing Marriott in about 45 minutes on CATA buses (see [CATA’s trip planner](#) to pick your route). Or, you can get there in roughly 12 minutes by car or Uber.

Check out more local coming events with the Choose Lansing

calendar: <http://www.lansing.org/events>

Whitmore Lake



Brighton Blues Bash

Get ready for an unforgettable night of live music featuring two of Metro Detroit's most celebrated blues artists: the legendary Mr. B (Mark Lincoln Braun), known for his boogie-woogie piano mastery, and powerhouse vocalist Thornetta Davis, Detroit's own Queen of the Blues (she's opened for such blues greats as B.B. King, Ray Charles, Etta James, and Bonnie Raitt.)

It's happening on Sunday, Sept. 7, between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Brighton Center for Performing Arts, 7878 Brighton Rd., Brighton. [Tickets are \\$17.85-\\$28.52.](#) NOTE: This event includes a food drive for the Livingston Hunger Council, so attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable item to give away or make a monetary donation.

Brighton and other communities of Livingston County offer a multitude of events to delight visitors of all ages. Explore them with the Livingston County Convention & Visitors Bureau events calendar: <https://visitlivingstoncounty.com/events/>.

Ann Arbor



The Street Art Encounter

Visit Ann Arbor on Friday, Sept. 12, between noon and 8 p.m. and watch as downtown is transformed into a vibrant, open-air gallery with live street art, interactive installations, and creative expressions by local and regional artists. This FREE family-friendly event offers art in motion—no gallery walls, no velvet ropes—just creativity happening right before your eyes: Artists creating murals, chalk masterpieces, and experimental works directly on the streets, turning the city into a canvas. Whether you're an art lover, a casual stroller, or just looking for something fun to do, this first-time event is an opportunity to connect with the creative spirit of the community.

For more entertainment in and around A2, see the Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar of coming events: <https://www.annarbor.org/events/>.

Detroit



Bonnie Raitt Live

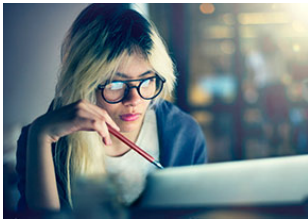
This 13-time GRAMMY winner was inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in 2000. Rolling Stone has called her one of the "100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time," as well as one of the "100 Greatest Singers of All Time."

Now, just months after being honored at the Kennedy Center for her lifetime of artistic achievements, Bonnie Raitt is coming to Detroit with special guest Jimmie Vaughan & The Tilt-A-Whirl Band.

The singer, songwriter—and guitarist whose style blends blues, R&B, rock, and pop—is famous for hits like "Something to Talk About" and "I Can't Make You Love Me." See her in person at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13, at the Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit.

[Tickets are \\$53-\\$254+.](#)

To learn more about what's happening in Detroit, check out the Detroit Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar of coming events: <https://visitdetroit.com/events/>.



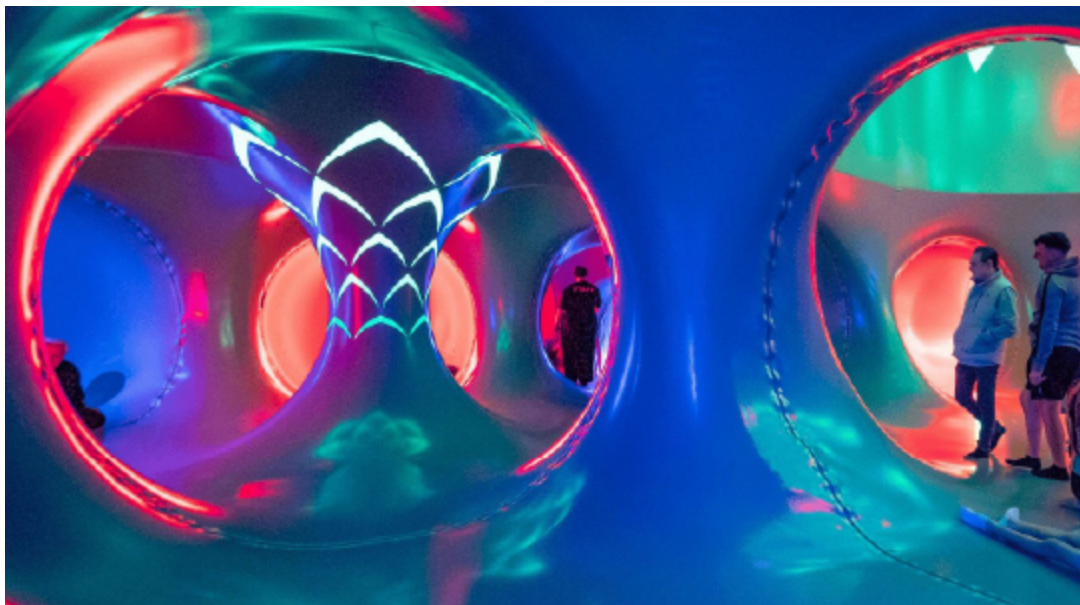
Tips for Smarter Travel

Know How to Find Us at DTW (click the link for each terminal)

Easily Change Your Own MI Flyer Reservations at this Link

Where's Your Bus? Find Out with Our Real-Time Tracker

Ride Indian Trails to ArtPrize® in Grand Rapids



Arborealis: Just one of the amazing attractions at
ARTPRIZE 2025

Indian Trails, our parent company, makes it easy to plan an “art immersion weekend.” [ArtPrize](#)—which takes place between Sept. 18 and Oct. 4 this year—is an international competition featuring nearly 1,500 works of art at 175 venues throughout downtown Grand Rapids—museums, bars, parks, restaurants, theaters, hotels, bridges, vacant storefronts, office spaces and more.

Artists from across the U.S. and around the globe will be showing a wide range of creative work—from paintings and sculpture to music and performance art—and competing for more than \$400,000 in prizes—\$200,000 of which is decided by public vote, \$200,000 by art experts. For the public, it's totally free.

With Indian Trails' daily, scheduled routes, it's just a relaxing, affordable motorcoach ride from locations all across Michigan. For example, for \$30 roundtrip (plus \$4 fee each way), you could depart East Lansing's Intermodal Terminal at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 27, arriving at the Rapid Central Station in Grand Rapids at 2:25 p.m. After an art-filled weekend, you could then catch a return coach on Monday, Sept. 29, at 12:05 p.m., arriving back in East Lansing at 1:35 p.m. [Check Indian Trails ticket prices and schedules here.](#)

While soaking up the artwork all weekend, you could stay at one of Grand Rapids' fine downtown hotels and get around by free DASH downtown shuttle, [The Rapid bus system](#), or by Lime E-Scooter or E-Bike. [More info here.](#) Also, check out the Grand Rapids [experience guides](#) to help plan your trip. You may even want to stay long enough to explore the exhibits at the [Grand Rapids Art Museum](#), [Grand Rapids Children's Museum](#), [Grand Rapids Public Museum](#) and [Grand Rapids African Museum & Archives](#).

Please, Help Others by Reviewing Us Online

Kindly take a moment to help others understand how our service might improve their travels. Just visit one of these websites to write a quick review about your experience with Michigan Flyer. Thank you!

facebook

 tripadvisor®

yelp 

Customer Comment

"I have had great experiences and great drivers each time I've taken the Flyer. Reliable service at a reasonable price."

—Lisa J., Waterbury, Vt.



Sample Airfares for Autumn Escapes

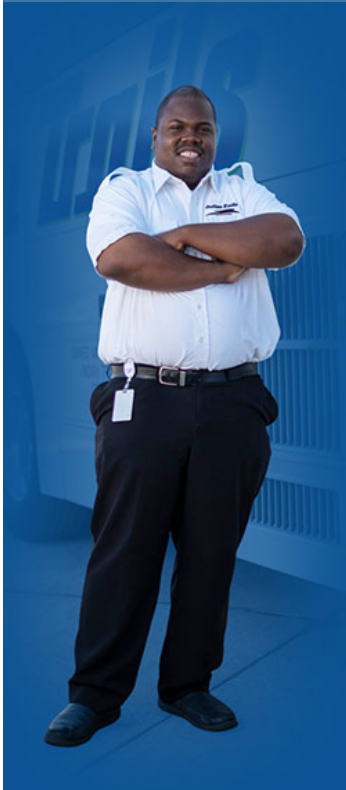


Our focus this month is on international getaways. Using www.Skyscanner.com, we sampled trips originating at Detroit Metro Airport (DTW) on Saturday, Oct. 11, and returning on Wednesday, Oct. 22. Among the criteria used for our spot check: Flights had to make no more than one stop or plane change in each direction, any layover between flights had to be fairly brief, and the return flight had to arrive at DTW in time for passengers to catch our last run at 10:45 p.m. or 11:00 p.m. to Ann Arbor, Whitmore Lake, and East Lansing.

The following economy **roundtrip** fares include taxes but not necessarily baggage or other “extras.” NOTE: You may well find different fares for nearly the same roundtrips on [Expedia](http://Expedia.com), [Kayak](http://Kayak.com), or [Orbitz](http://Orbitz.com)—or by buying tickets directly from a carrier like [Delta Air Lines](http://Delta.com). Lower prices than these are surely available for anyone who’s flexible about the dates of travel, or willing to change planes once or more enroute to their destination. Our sample economy roundtrip fares include taxes but not necessarily baggage or other “extras.”

Vancouver, CAN (YVR) WestJet **\$209**
San Juan, PRI (SJU) Southwest **\$343**
Cancun, MEX (CUN) Spirit + Air Canada **\$347**
Nassau, BHS (NAS) American **\$515**
San Jose, CRI (SJO) Spirit + Air Canada **\$521**
Toronto, CAN (YYZ) Air Canada **\$544**
Dublin, IRL (DUB) JetBlue **\$552**
Stockholm, SWE (ARN) Delta **\$584**
Montreal, CAN (YUL) Air Canada **\$592**
Madrid, ESP (MAD) JetBlue **\$627**
Oslo, NOR (OSL) Lufthansa **\$630**
Luxembourg, LUX (LUX) Lufthansa **\$644**
Brussels, BEL (BRU) United **\$662**
Helsinki, FIN (HEL) Delta **\$675**
Geneva, CHE (GVA) Delta **\$680**
Kingston, JAM (KIN) Delta **\$691**
Lisbon, PRT (LIS) TAP Air Portugal **\$701**
Bucharest, ROU (OTP) Lufthansa **\$712**

Naples, ITA (NAP) Delta **\$722**
Warsaw, POL (WAW) Delta **\$724**
Athens, GRC (ATH) Delta **\$726**
Glasgow, GBR (GLA) Delta **\$779**
Berlin, DEU (BER) United **\$810**
Frankfurt, DEU (FRA) Lufthansa **\$841**
Lima, PER (LIM) LATAM **\$860**
Amsterdam, NLD (AMS) Delta **\$902**
Rome, ITA (FCO) Delta **\$910**
Reykjavik, ISL (KEF) Delta **\$974**
Paris, FRA (CDG) Air France **\$1,041**
London, GBR (LHR) Air France **\$1,064**
New Delhi, IND (DEL) United **\$1,089**
Santiago, CHL (SCL) Delta or LATAM **\$1,202**
Singapore, SGP (SIN) Turkish **\$1,232**
Tokyo, JPN (HND) Delta **\$1,252**
Sydney, AUS (SYD) United **\$1,413**
Buenos Aires, ARG (EZE) Delta **\$1,435**



Bus Drivers Wanted

No experience necessary! Indian Trails, Inc.—which staffs Michigan Flyer with professional drivers—is accepting applications for full-time motorcoach drivers. These positions pay a starting hourly rate of \$23.00, provide a 5-week PAID training program leading to a Commercial Driver's License, and operate Michigan's newest and largest fleet of motorcoaches. Among other benefits, full-time drivers receive:

- Two weeks of paid time off in the first year
- Medical, dental, vision and life insurance
- 401(k) retirement program with employer match
- Annual safety bonus

Worth noting, too, drivers with the highest seniority currently earn \$33.82 an hour. Indian Trails truly appreciates the hard work of its staff members—it's a 115-year-old, family-run company that values fairness, honesty, teamwork, and service excellence. [Click here to learn more and ask to get in touch with our recruiter, Jennifer Freeman.](#)

Happy Labor Day!



The first labor parade was organized by New York City unions in 1882. More than 10,000 workers marched, though it cost most of them a day's pay. Back then, the average worker toiled for 12 hours a day—seven days a week—just to earn a meager living. In many states, children as young as five worked in mills, factories, and mines for even lower wages.

In 1894, Congress established Labor Day as a federal holiday to be celebrated on the first Monday of September. President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. The eight-hour workday was established with passage of the Adamson Act in 1916.

Whether you celebrate Labor Day with a parade, cookout, picnic, fireworks, or long weekend at the beach, enjoy the rest of summer! Astronomically speaking, the first day of fall arrives on Monday, Sept. 22—the Autumn Equinox. This is when the Sun crosses the Equator, and those of us in the Northern Hemisphere begin to see more darkness than daylight.

Welcome Back!



All of us at Indian Trails, Michigan Flyer, D2A2 and Detroit Air Xpress extend a very warm welcome back to the students, faculty and staff of Michigan State University and the University of Michigan! We missed you, and we're here to assist you with your travel needs.

Why Drive?

Booking is easy, click here to view schedules.



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www.michiganflyer.com

