

Erie Foodie Tour Suggested Itinerary

Day One

Lunch

Eat, learn and walk Erie during an **Erie Food Tour**. Learn the history and culture of the region while enjoying delicious food from locally-owned restaurants, bakeries, and specialty shops. An Erie Food Tour is the perfect activity for anyone who enjoys eating good food and learning a little bit along the way. All food tours are easy-paced walking tours and are approximately one mile in length. There are two lunch food tour routes to choose from:

- The "Original" Downtown Erie Food Tour (Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 pm.)
- The "Historic" North East Food Tour (Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.)

Tours are available from mid-May to October.

Beaches and Dessert

After your Erie Food Tour, head down to **Presque Isle State Park**, Erie's top attraction with seven miles of Lake Erie beaches, 13.5 mile multipurpose trail, the Presque Isle Lighthouse and more. Before or after your park visit, be sure to stop for dessert at **Sara's Diner**. This fun, 50's style hangout is popular with visitors and locals and is known for their towering orange and vanilla twists and thick, frothy milkshakes. Sara's is open seasonally from April 1 to September 30.

Dinner and Drinks

The Brewerie at Union Station combines a historic atmosphere with fantastic food and a wide assortment of craft brews. Located inside the historic and still functioning train station, Brewerie has ample seating in their tap room, rotunda area or at their outside trackside garden. Feel the rumble of the trains going past the station while you munch on a plate of the Brewerie's famous beer battered pickles or chow down on a Train Wreck, their signature sandwich piled high with grilled ham, turkey, fries and coleslaw. Wash it all down with a pint of Apparition Amber Ale or a Hopness Monster I.P.A.

Day Two

Lunch

Spend the morning at **Presque Isle Downs and Casino** and place your bets on excitement! Take a spin on over 1,500 of the latest and greatest slots or try your hand at over 30 thrilling table games including Roulette, Blackjack and Craps. Plus, watch and wager on all the big game sports action on our big screen TVs at our TwinSpires Sportsbook featuring 50 self-serve sports betting kiosks! Head upstairs away from the hustle and bustle of the casino floor to enjoy a relaxing lunch at **Churchill's Bourbon and Brew**. Churchill's overlooks Presque Isle Downs' mile-long racetrack which has live thoroughbred horse racing from mid-May through October, Monday to Thursday. The restaurant's fare features items such as homemade soups and salads, burgers and wood-fired pizzas. Churchill's also has an extensive selection of bourbon and thirty beers on tap.

Winnings and Wine

After you've hit the jackpot at the Casino, take your winnings and travel east to **Lake Erie Wine Country** for a group wine tour and tasting. Located along the shores of Lake Erie from Pennsylvania to Western New York, Lake Erie Wine Country encompasses over 30,000 acres of vineyards and 20 estate wineries. All wineries offer year-round tours and tastings. **Courtyard Winery, Mazza Vineyards and Lakeview**

Wine Cellars are among the celebrated list of must-try wineries. Private winery tours are available through local businesses Rupp Limousine and Locale Wine Tours.

Dinner

Experience a farm-to-table meal at **Local Eat & Pour**, a southern influenced restaurant that strives to support both local and regional farmers and producers. Their inventive menu changes frequently depending on what seasonal items are available in the Erie region.

OR

“Happy Appy” Food Tour

If your group would prefer a “dine-around” experience, take the “Happy-Appy” Erie Food Tour. This guided walking tour explores Erie’s downtown, combining tasty appetizers and beverages with historic points of interest along the way. The Happy-Appy Food Tours are held Wednesdays in Downtown Erie from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tours are available from mid-May to October.

Brunch and Munch!

There’s nothing better than a leisurely Sunday brunch to add to your Erie foodie tour. Many Erie restaurants offer Sunday brunches that feature traditional brunch items such as scrambled eggs, bacon and quiche to healthy selections like acai bowls and confit tomatoes on toast, and unique drinks like a stacked Bloody Mary. Sunday brunches are offered at **Local Eat & Pour, Pier 6 Rooftop Bar & Restaurant, Voodoo Brewing Company, Luminary Distilling & Eatery, The Cork 1794** and **Oasis Pub and Restaurant**.

Local Products

Throughout the Erie area, many products are homemade right here on our shores! From sweet confections to fruits of the vine, no Erie Foodie tour would be complete without a trip to one of our local producers.

Wines

Lake Erie Wine Country is the largest grape growing region in the United States east of the Rocky Mountains. Featuring 30,000 sprawling acres of vineyards and more than 20 distinct estate and commercial wineries, Lake Erie Wine Country spans 50 miles of shoreline from Harborcreek, Pennsylvania to Silver Creek, New York along the southern shorelines of Lake Erie. Our area wineries produce unique and diverse wines for all tastes, from fruity native fox grape labruscas and exquisite French-American wines to European-style wines and award-winning favorites. Most wineries offer tours, special events and concerts throughout the year.

Chocolate

Tour and taste the sweet treats produced at Erie’s local chocolatiers: **Pulakos Chocolates** and **Romolo Chocolates**. Both businesses are family-owned and have been satisfying customers’ sweet tooth over the years with their tempting confections such as sponge candy, chocolate-covered strawberries, assorted milk and dark chocolates and truffles. Group tours are available.

Craft Brews and Spirits

Erie is a popular destination for microbreweries, and each of the fifteen craft breweries that make up the **Lake Erie Ale Trail** offer their own distinct take on craft beer with creative brewing techniques,

flavors and names such as Keyboard Warrior and Blind Squirrel Nut Brown Ale. Group tours are available at most breweries upon request.

Altered State Distillery, Luminary Distillery & Eatery and **Erie Distillery** take pride in their unique spirits, cocktails and craft syrups that include a variety of moonshine flavors, smoked old fashioned cocktails, rich liquors, double oaked whiskey and barrel aged rum. As weather permits, Altered State sets up their expansive outside patio area to welcome live music and food trucks. Luminary Distillery and Eatery offers gastropub dining at their Upper Peach Street location and a specialty **Cocktail and Bottle Shop** in the **Flagship City Public Market**.

Fresh Produce

From roadside stands to farmers markets, Erie has much to offer when it comes to fresh produce.

Hulings Blueberries and Farm Market, open July through September, allows guests to come pick their own blueberries or buy fresh, hand-picked products from their market stand. With over nine different varieties of blueberries across 11 acres, the biggest, juiciest and sweetest blueberries in the tri-state area can be found at Hulings. Adjacent to Arrowhead Wine Cellars is **Mobilia Fruit Market**. Open July 1 to November 1, the farm grows their own peaches, cherries and grapes that are available to pick yourself or purchase already picked. Mobilia's also sells frozen fruit, fresh grape juice, jams and jellies that are all made from the produce grown at the farm, including Arrowhead wine!

Food and Wine-Related Festivals

Plan your trip around one of our food and wine-related festivals and events to round out your Erie foodie tour. As dates change each year, please contact the festival or event organizer for specific details.

Asbury Woods Maple Festival (early April)

Celebrate all things maple at **Asbury Woods'** annual Maple Festival featuring interactive and informative tours and demonstrations, vendors, and of course some sweet maple candy samples! Learn the process behind transforming 45 gallons of sap into one gallon of syrup at their working sugar shack.

American Craft Beer Week (May)

Various events taking place throughout this week at several breweries of the **Lake Erie Ale Trail** such as Beer Coaster at Waldameer Park, Fun Runs, exclusive beer releases and more.

Wine Fest (September)

Always held the last full weekend in September, **Wine Fest** is an annual festival of all things grape and wine. It is held in the charming town of North East, Pennsylvania, home to the majority of the Lake Erie Wine Country wineries. Wine Fest includes numerous vendors, tasting tents, winery tours, food trucks and live entertainment.

Ethnic Festivals

Panegyri Greek Fest (July)

North East Cherry Festival (July)

St. Paul's Italian Festival (August)

Zabawa Polish Fest (August)

Irish Festival (September)

German Heritage Festival (September)
Wild Rib Cook Off and Music Festival