**What’s New in Erie 2022**

* **Tall Ships Erie Returns in 2022!** Just announced the return of the tall ships to Erie’s shores will take place August 25-28, 2022. Several Tall Ships will join Erie’s Flagship, the U.S. Brig Niagara in the popular Parade of Sails and ship tours for this 4-day event! Mark your calendars to set sail for Erie! [www.TallShipsErie.org](http://www.TallShipsErie.org)
* **Flagship City Public Market** - Set to open Spring 2022, this isn’t your typical grocery store. The new public market will feature the best of local meats, produce and drinks from Erie Food Co-Op, Gordon’s Butcher & Market and Luminary Distilling, Eatery, Fuhrman’s Cider. The Flagship City Public Market will be located in the ground floor of the former Dispatch Building in Downtown Erie off of Perry Square. The Erie Foods Cooperative will occupy 5,000 square feet and will provide fresh, local produce, bakery items, bulk products, and other staples for a healthy diet. Gordon’s Market will occupy appx. 2,000 square feet and offer their famous city chicken, ox roast, sausage, and hand-cut steaks, Luminary Distilling will occupy approx. 1,000 square feet as a “Tasting Room” and bottle shop where visitors can find their small-batch, artisanal, distilled products. The vendors will accept SNAP, making the Market accessible for all members of the community.
* [**expERIEnce Children’s Museum**](http://www.eriechildrensmuseum.org) received a $5 million grant to help pay for planned expansion and renovations. The $15.1 million project will include a three-story, 19,000-square-foot addition to be built in a vacant lot next to the existing museum at 420 French St. A new outdoor area will accommodate open-air programs. Renovations to the existing building will include the installation of energy-efficient heating, cooling and lighting plus electrical, plumbing and communications upgrades. Groundbreaking March 2022. Project completion 2024.
* **Erie Sports Center -** The Sports Center will be a 28-acre multi-purpose venue for sports, tourism, business and social events as well as sports conferences. The facility will also have 61,000 sq. ft. indoor dome with FIFA –certified astro turf, 12 outdoor soccer fields and 8 baseball fields, Fun Park with go karts, mini golf, batting cages and climbing wall, 1,800 sq. ft. beach arena (where the bumper boats resided) for volleyball and soccer, 150 seat LUMI café/restaurant/bar, conference room and sports science facility. Phase 1 opens Winter 2021, Phases 2 and 3 are set for spring 2022 and beyond. [www.eriesportscenter.com](http://www.eriesportscenter.com)
* **Flagship City Food Hall –** Showcasing Erie’s diverse culinary talent with a passion for food and cooking’ located in the heart of Downtown Erie. Vendors include: Luckie Louie’s Beer & Wieners, A Taste of Love, Shawarma Station, Dina’s Authentic Domincan, Blue Willow Bakery & Café, Noodle Love, Perry’s Tavern, The Straw Hat Sundae Shop, Taste and See Fruit & Veggie Bar. The Hall also features a food market with Gordon’s Meat Market and Erie Food Co-Op plus live music, public art displays, themed nights and events. [www.flagshipcityfoodhall.com](http://www.flagshipcityfoodhall.com) Food Hall hours: Monday - Thursday 8 am -10 pm, Friday - Saturday 8 am -11 pm, Sunday 8 am – 6 pm. Opened November 2021.
* **Bayfront Market House -** A 22,000-square-foot, multi-story waterfront building is planned for the former GAF property on Erie’s Bayfront just south of the Courtyard Marriott Hotel. It will be open year-round and feature a full-service grocery store, as well as local vendors that sell chocolates, wine, meats, produce, crafts and other goods.
* [**Icing on the Lake**](http://www.icingonthelake.com)  - Revolutionizing how and when you satisfy your sweet cravings! Introducing a new Afterhours Treat machine (ATM) to satisfy late night after hour snack attacks. Located just outside their store, the new dessert ATM will be stocked and ready for you!
* [**Play Port**](http://www.playporterie.com) debuts new Laser Tag. Bring your closest allies and compete in a team-based, or all for one free for all in their custom arena. An amazing environment that will take you away into another world. Fight for your survival and become the victor!
* [**expERIEnce Children’s Museum Mobile Museum**](https://www.eriechildrensmuseum.org/education/mobile-museum/) **-** The Mobile Museum has 5 mobile museum exhibits available for rental: Mobile Magnet Wall, Chalk Spinner, Flight Lab, Makers Space, and Rig-a-ma-jig. To book the Mobile Museum, you can reach out to Breanna Daughtery at [breanne@eriechildrensmuseum.org](mailto:breanne@eriechildrensmuseum.org) for after school programming, community events, and more! We bring the van to YOU and can set up a table/tent depending on the event.
* **PA DCNR names French Creek the 2022 PA River of the Year**. French Creek in northwestern Pennsylvania has been selected as the 2022 Pennsylvania River of the Year! French Creek is one of the most biologically diverse waterways of its size in the U.S., meandering 117 miles from its headwaters in southern New York through four PA counties to the Allegheny River. The creek is home to 27 species of freshwater mussels, more than 80 species of fish, and numerous waterfowl, and songbird species, including bald eagles and four Audubon-designated Important Bird Areas. [French Creek Valley Conservancy](https://www.facebook.com/FrenchCreekConservancy/?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZUCmt1vs9erKWqljnmO3j_x_B9gE3y1yOIhsvunvxQsfS1mwxF18mdEalNplqVYrMM9Hda1xCZtGcT8sw_2iZaWU2Ze3XuQVOrxSbK0Djt5oN3A4pOZgFIm3wLNSOdPTN3SkTCuVyScb5V5-MJZhd635zDCBroTHipTIvlL__agdw&__tn__=kK-y-R) will receive a $10,000 grant to help fund a slate of year-long 2022 River of the Year activities in celebration.
* [**Erie Zoo – Wild Open Spaces**](https://www.eriezoo.org/capital-campaign) campaign seeks to bring more animals, more exhibits and more upgrades to the Zoo in 2022 and beyond. Improvements include Main Zoo Building renovation, Colobus monkey exhibit, new otter exhibit, expanded giraffe exhibit and a new bear exhibit designed to house sloth bears. Other plans include a new 40-person restaurant, additional concession areas, expanded gift shop and a new train station.
* [**Presque Isle State Park**](https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/PresqueIsleStatePark/Pages/default.aspx) **–** Recently unveiled a Climate and Sustainability Plan for Presque Isle State Park that will take the park to net zero energy. The park will add a 280kW solar canopy array over the parking lot at Beach 8 that is expected to take the park to net zero energy consumption. The array will save DCNR $30,000 on electricity annually while producing enough energy to power 25 average American homes. It will also reduce the park’s carbon footprint by more than 211,000 pounds a year, or the equivalent of removing 20 passenger cars from the road annually. Net zero energy is the use of energy conservation, energy efficiency, and on-site renewable generation to account for 100 percent of energy usage. Other plans include three public electric vehicle charging stations at Beach 8, and the addition of a plugin hybrid minivan and electric motorcycle added to Presque Isle’s vehicle fleet.
* [**Goodell Gardens Expansion**](http://www.goodellgardens.org) **-** Goodell Gardens & Homestead is launching our next phase of development. After an extensive strategic planning process, Goodell Gardens & Homestead identified several goals to help guide our programming, development, and vision over the next three years. Goals include increased programming, adding trails to the 80-acre site, renovating existing structures, improving amenities for gatherings and events, and adding an observation platform where visitors can see the wildlife on Edinboro Lake Cove. We're also in the beginning stages of planning a Children's Garden and new Visitors Center. 2022-23
* [**Erie’s Station Square**](http://www.eriess.com) **-** Let’s Make Downtown Erie Fun Again! Erie’s Station Square Ltd. is a PA non-profit corporation that recently established “Station Square District” to rejuvenate the area around Erie’s historic Union Station and Griswold Park. Plans include six Pickleball courts, a synthetic ice rink, musical swings, bubble soccer and more!
* **The Three Forts of Presque Isle & Interpretive Center** – Coming Soon! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aklx9oOi7-E>