

# Amid the islands On the waterfront — in Ohio



travel log  
**Iris Sanderson Jones**  
contributing travel editor

## Rides and river tours

Adventure means different things to different people. To coastermaniacs, those children of all ages who love roller coasters, adventure is the American Eagle, which will open this May at Great America in Gurnee, Ill.

The American Eagle is the newest, fastest, longest, highest of the great megacoasters which scare people out of their wits regularly in these parks around the country.

Designers have tried for years to make thrill rides faster and scarier by using electronic space-age technology, but the real coastermaniacs prefer the wooden roller coasters because they shake and creek in just the right places.

The American Eagle is a double-track racing coaster in the same category as Gemini at Cedar Point, but it is 4,650 feet long, has a first incline of 127 feet, and makes a long, thin pattern instead of a shorter, curled one. The length of the first lift is 330 feet and the length of the first vertical drop is 147 feet.

The American Eagle follows The Beast, the megacoaster which opened last year at King's Island, near Cincinnati. King's Island has another goodie ready to open this summer: The Bat. It is a coaster in which the cars hang suspended under the track, swinging out at 90 degrees on the turns.

No thanks, folks, I'll just ride the merry-go-round. The most frightening moment of my life was on the day I walked up to the Great American Scream Machine at Six Flags

Over Georgia and said to myself: "I don't have to ride that roller coaster if I don't want to."

I haven't been on a roller coaster since.

**SCREAMING AROUND** turns is one definition of adventure. Others might find adventure in the 1981 schedules issued by Sobek Expeditions and the Outdoor Adventure River Specialists.

OA's will take you on whitewater tours down the Rogue, San Juan, Dolores, Salmon or Colorado rivers, including the Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

SOBEK has trips that range from one-month explorations of Africa to Papua, New Guinea. If you would like a 1981 SOBEK/OA's catalog, send \$1.50 to Box 7007, Angels Camp, California 95222.

If all you want are free brochures, send for them at the same address. Brochures include: California and Western Rivers; South America; the Himalayas; Papua, New Guinea; Alaska Rivers and Treks; and African River Safaris.

If you like a little bit of both kinds of adventure, a little outdoor fun and a little coastering, you might explore Darien Lake Fun Country, a camping facility in New York that is set in as theme park with 35 rides available. You can bring your own tent or trailer, or rent campers or cottages.

For information, contact Darien Center, New York, NY 14040, or call (716) 881-6200.

By Bettie Cannon  
special writer

**PUT-IN-BAY, Ohio** — Indians and fur-traders paddled into this harbor in long canoes in the 17th century. High-rigged British and American Men O'War fought for these strategic islands in the War of 1812.

Victorian families from all across the eastern half of the United States came here in steamships to huge ornate vacation hotels. In the 1940s this was the destination of ferry boats from Toledo, Cleveland and Detroit.

Today, islanders are again preparing marinas, restaurants and tourist attractions for another summer when boats, under canvas or power, will return to this 11-island recreation area.

Sixty miles downriver and across the western basin of Lake Erie from Detroit, Put-in-Bay is only a day-and-a-half sail from marinas east of Detroit, less from Grosse Ile. By motor, it is a four-hour run from the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

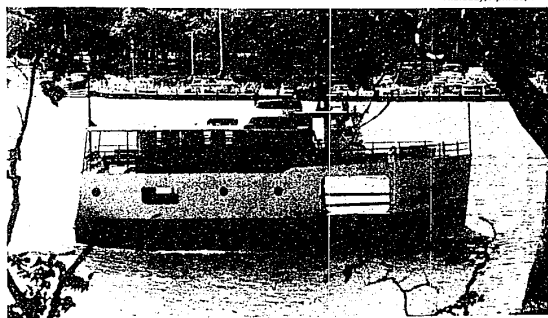
**WHETHER YOU** come to the Lake Erie Islands to fish, cruise, sightsee or shop, there are private and public marinas to use for a night or a week. Three public docks with slips for 400 boats are at the foot of the village park. Dockage fees run 40 cents per foot, per night. Because Put-in-Bay is a popular port-of-call, especially on holiday weekends, space here is on a first-come, first-served basis. The Chamber of Commerce recommends mid-week and early June as the best time.

Reservations are a must at the Crew's Nest, a private marina with clubhouse, docking, tennis and swimming memberships. Both marinas are within walking distance of shops and restaurants. Public showers and toilet are available in the town parks.

Islanders Joan and Marvin Booker own the Crew's Nest, a carefully restored rooming house and cottage built in the 1890s. They take white wicker rockers out of storage in the large dining room and put them on the front porch. They paint and fix up the docks, tennis court and junior Olympic-sized pool.

Joan says, "We have daily memberships available here. For \$30 yachtmen use the pool, courts and clubhouse from Sunday night through Friday afternoon. When they use these mid-week memberships, they avoid weekend crowds and lack of docking space."

Seasonal memberships are also offered and vary from \$150 to \$250 a season, depending on services used. Live entertainment is presented all summer. Fresh perch and pickerel from Lake Erie are favorites in the dining room.



If you don't own a boat, ferries are available at Port Clinton which will take you to the islands.

**SINCE THE 1880s**, small boat sailors by the hundreds have converged on the island's marinas for Regatta Week in August. In addition, this year the famous Mills Race from Toledo to Put-in-Bay begins the first week in June.

Across the road from the Crew's Nest marina, you'll see the village park and shops in the New England-type town. If you need ice or groceries, stop at the Island General Store, a block away.

In one corner of the village park, facing the bay, there is a monument dedicated to three American and three British officers killed in the Battle of Lake Erie. Sailors' bodies were weighted with cannon balls during battle and thrown into the lake, but the six dead officers were buried here. Although their bodies were later moved, a mound of cannon-shot marks their first burial place.

One way to see the island is via the local tour train with its yellow, open cars shaded with red and white awnings. From the restored depot, Skip and Sharon Duggan, who are full of the lore of the island, will narrate a one-hour tour which includes stops at caves, a winery and the "Column," as it is known to islanders.

The "Column" is the Admiral Oliver Perry International Memorial, dedicated to lasting peace between United States and Canada. With its battery of Canadian and American flags fluttering and crackling in the breeze, the 352-foot Doric column dominates the island.

National Park Service tour guides meet you at the top of the world's second tallest monument to point out highlights of the battle for control of Lake Erie, 10 miles out into the lake.

Through telescopes you may sight, perhaps, ghosts of sailing ships in combat and see shapes of islands like "Mouse" or "Starve" below you.

Wine-basted chicken picked up at the Chicken Pit in town can be taken to your boat for lunch. Or, if your cook is down in his bunk below, stop at the big,

red wooden Round House Bar, constructed in 1873, for a drink and eat outdoors at the Park Hotel next door.

**AN EXAMPLE** of the last of a thriving island business — winemaking — can be seen at the Heineman Winery, a short walk or bike ride from the town center. Small new wine in huge wooden casks and grape presses and taste older ones.

Louis Heineman, whose grandfather uncovered "Crystal Cave" while digging a well on his farm, will talk about his winery and then, for a dollar, guide you down narrow stairs into the cave. The ceiling and walls of the small cave are made of "stromtia" crystal, the largest in the world.

Across the street, for another dollar, you can see "Perry's Cave," the 206-foot-long cave said to have been discovered by Perry. Island tradition says that British prisoners of war and ammunition were kept in this cave 52 feet underground.

In the interior of the island, blue Catawba and Concord grapes still flourish in the sun to produce wines and grape juice. Vines were first brought to the Lake Erie Islands in 1856 by a Spaniard who initiated what was until Prohibition the islands' primary industry.

The man from Spain bought South Bass Island and three more islands from a disappointed bridegroom who had expected a cash-on-the-barrelhead dowry from his wealthy father-in-law. He did not expect four, flat islands covered with wild grape vines.

For more information about motels, cottages or tourist rooms: Chamber of Commerce, Put-in-Bay, Ohio 43451. Write Sharon Duggan, Island Tour Train, P.O. Box 154-0 about package tours including ferry ride, tour train and lunch.

For Crew's Nest reservations call The Bookers, 419-285-2374.

For charts of the Lake Erie Basin and Lake Erie Islands, write: Lake Survey Center, Department of Commerce, 53 Federal Building, Detroit 48226.

"The menu is overflowing with mouth watering selections like the Cantonese-style pressed duck with almonds bathed in a honey-sauce... This is certainly a dining room to put on the top of your list."

Mary Walpole,  
Globe & Mail, Wed., Jan. 28, 1981

The orange beef is asterisked on the menu to denote a hot and spicy dish. It was breathtakingly zesty."

Howard MacGregor,  
Sunday Sun, Sun., Jan. 11, 1981

**christines of 110**  
"Where the cuisine is Oriental and the mood is Continental."

Situated on the ground floor mall of 110 Bloor Street West (Toronto)  
For reservations 928-1101  
Mon to Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am Sun. 3 pm - 10 pm  
Near The Four Seasons & Park Plaza hotels

It's Florida's Greatest Sea View!!!  
Larry & Ricky Paskow

**PAID STAY 11**

**4 Days Free**  
AS LOW AS \$39<sup>45</sup> p.p. dbl. occ.

Room rate includes: • 3 Supervised Meals Daily • Daily Massage • A.D.A. Dietitian • Low Fat Diet under Medical Supervision • Tennis & Golf Available • Spas for Men & Women • Exercises & Yoga Classes • Entertainment • Dinner Dancing • Social Events  
For information and a color brochure

CALL FREE 1-800-327-7510  
LARRY PASKOW  
**HARBOR ISLAND SPA**  
NORTH BAY VILLAGE  
ON BISCAYNE BEACH BETWEEN MIAMI & MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33141  
\*Main Bldg. rates average as low as \$39.45 per day (10 of 18 rooms) per person (dbl. occ. based on 11 day stay). Special Rates for Bayside Tower suites and poolside lanais.

**WHEN YOU WANT TODAY'S BEAUTIFUL MUSIC.**

**WHEN YOU NEED TO KNOW.**

94 97 98 100  
6 95 10 12  
AM

Whatever happens — when it happens, you'll hear it fast and accurate on WWJ NEWSRADIO 95. World news, local news, sports, weather, business, Detroit's only Traffic-reporter reports and features that add dimension to your day. If it affects your life, you'll hear about it on WWJ NEWSRADIO 95. Keep informed and up-to-date — we're all news, all the time, anytime. WWJ NEWSRADIO 95. CBS Radio for Detroit.

Streisand, Mancini, Bacharach and more. It's today's beautiful music — all of the sophisticated sounds of today... music just the way you are. WWJ FM 97. When it's time to relax, at home or away — there's something beautiful to turn to. WWJ FM 97.

**TRAVEL CAREERS**  
An exciting career of Travel Agent training taught by active travel professionals. Free placement assistance.

**3 DETROIT-AREA LOCATIONS!**  
Call for more info for full details.

**tei** Travel Education Institute

2511 Riverchase Way  
Livonia, MI 48150  
(313) 352-4875

**Just 90 minutes away on I-75 near Bay City**

**Bay Valley Inn**

**SPRING GOLF WEEKEND \$195 FOR TWO PERSONS**

Included are green fees and cart for 18 holes of golf on Saturday and Sunday on Bay Valley's challenging championship course with 13 water holes and the famous Heather Hole. A spacious room at the Inn, cocktails, dinner and a fabulous brunch complete the package.

For reservations or more information call Toll Free 1-800-292-5028 in Detroit call 313/963-3242

Bay Valley Inn — 2470 Old Bridge Road — 517/688-3500  
Bay City, MI 48708

**WWJ NEWSRADIO 95**

**FM 97 WWJ**