



HARRISON TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC LIBRARY



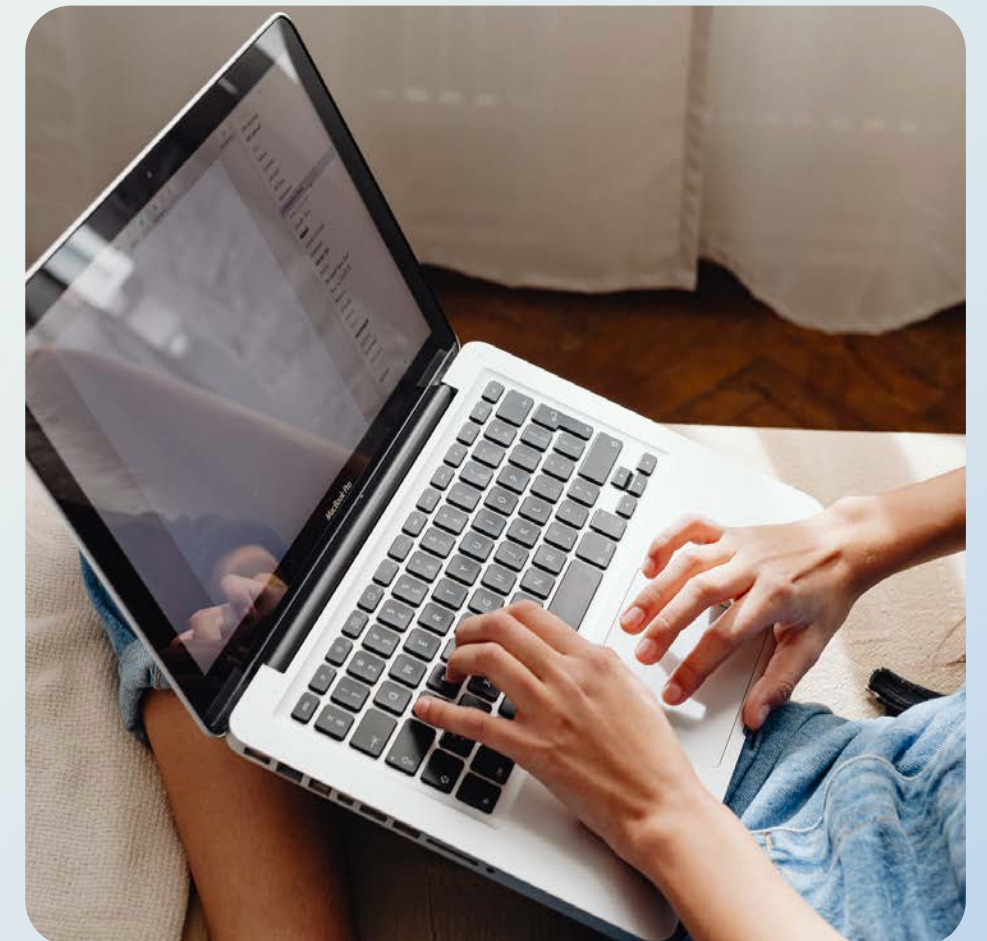
Tech Time at HTPL

Booking a Vacation



Things to Consider...

- **Your personal preferences for technology**
 - The easiest way to browse travel websites is by using a desktop or laptop computer.
- **Your budget**
 - It will help to write down how much you are looking to spend on lodging, airfare/gas/train fees, extra expenses, etc. before you start browsing the internet.
- **Ways you prefer to travel/how far you're going**
 - How much do you need to pack? Will you need to look into checking luggage, using a rental car, extra amenities, etc?



Where to Begin

- **After deciding where you'd like to travel to, consider starting with your method of transportation**
 - If flying, start by looking into flights
 - If driving, start by planning routes
 - If taking the train, start with the train's website
 - If going on a cruise, start with the cruise's website
- **Start to brainstorm where you're going to stay**
 - Is there a particular area you want to be close to?
 - If you're far away from intended destinations, will you need another method of transportation?
 - Would you prefer a hotel or an AirBnb?



Booking a Flight

- **Searching for flights**
 - Google Flights (google.com/travel/flights)
 - Skyscanner (skyscanner.com)
 - Kayak (kayak.com)
 - Hopper (hopper.com)
- **Browse by lowest price**
 - Use the calendar to see which dates have lowest prices
- **Consider using incognito mode**
 - Your data may be saved to show increased demand, leading to higher prices
- **Book directly through airline**
 - Easier to get refunds and additional help
 - Be sure to pay attention to luggage and seat info





Flights

↔ Round trip ▾

👤 1 ▾

Economy ▾

○ Detroit

↔

📍 Where to?

📅 Departure

Return

🔍 Explore

Flexible? Discover the best flight deals with AI

Describe your ideal trip, and let Google Flights find the best deals for you

Explore deals

Find cheap flights from United States to anywhere ⓘ

Detroit

Chicago

Dallas

Atlanta

Detroit → Las Vegas

 May 7 – May 13 · 1 stop

from \$160 >

Detroit → Los Angeles

 May 8 – May 14 · 1 stop

from \$160 >

Detroit → Atlanta

 May 29 – Jun 4 · Nonstop

from \$56 >

google.com/travel/flights

Google

Travel

Explore

Flights

Hotels

Vacation rentals

Round trip

1

Economy

Detroit

Colorado

Sat, Jun 13

Tue, Jun 16

All filters (1)

Flights only

Stops

P

About these results



Denver

Nonstop · 3 hr 13 min

\$178



Aspen

1 stop · 4 hr 57 min

\$376



Colorado Springs

1 stop · 4 hr 50 min

\$363



Vail

1 stop · 5 hr 55 min

Vail

\$389

Aspen

\$376

Gunnison

\$419

Alamosa

\$635

Denver

\$178

Colorado Springs

\$363

Pueblo

\$626

google.com/travel/flights

←

Google

H

Booking options

How options are ranked ⓘ

Book with Frontier

Airline

Basic Fare

\$178

📺

Seat selection for a fee

📺

Ticket changes for a fee

✖

No refunds

📺

1 carry-on bag available for a fee

📺

1st checked bag available for a fee

Continue

Economy Bundle

\$308

✓

Free seat selection

✓

Free change, possible fare difference

✓

1 free carry-on

📺

1st checked bag available for a fee

Continue

Fare and baggage conditions apply to your entire trip. Bag fees may be higher at the airport. [Frontier bag policy](#) For non-refundable fare options, taxes may be refundable.

Book with BudgetAir

Separate tickets booked together ⓘ

\$176

Continue

Book with Priceline

\$178

Continue

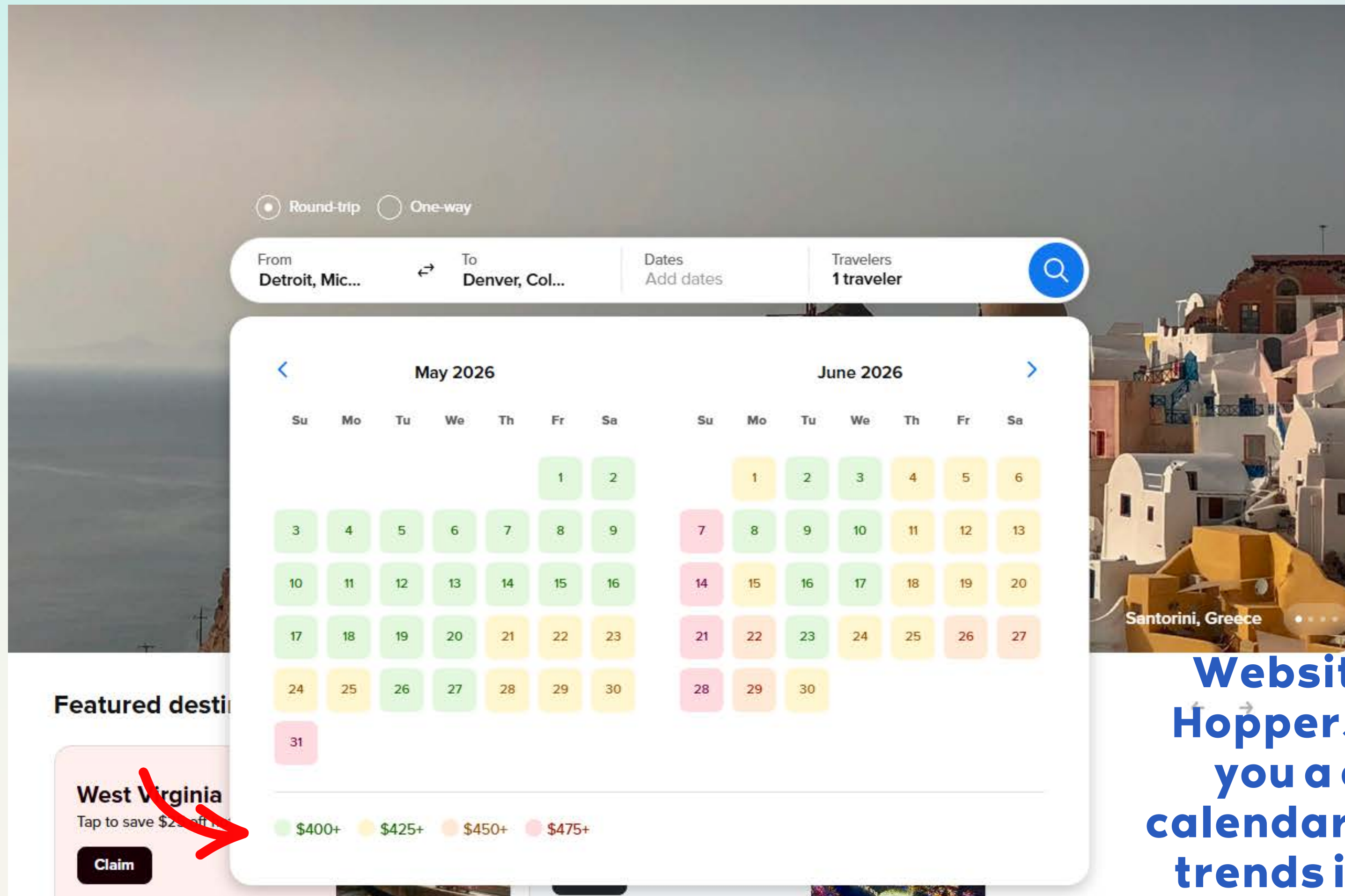
Book with eDreams

\$177

Continue

Hide options

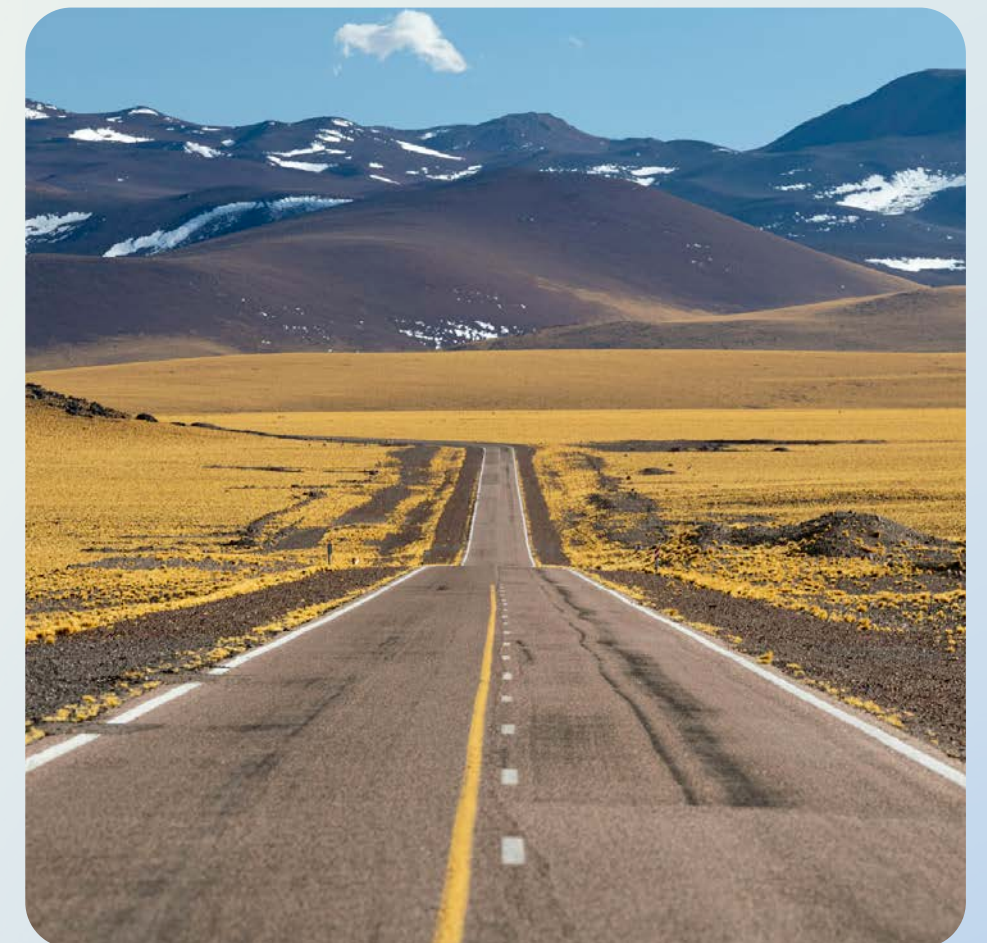
Your options will be summarized here, but you'll be taken directly to the airline's website to book.



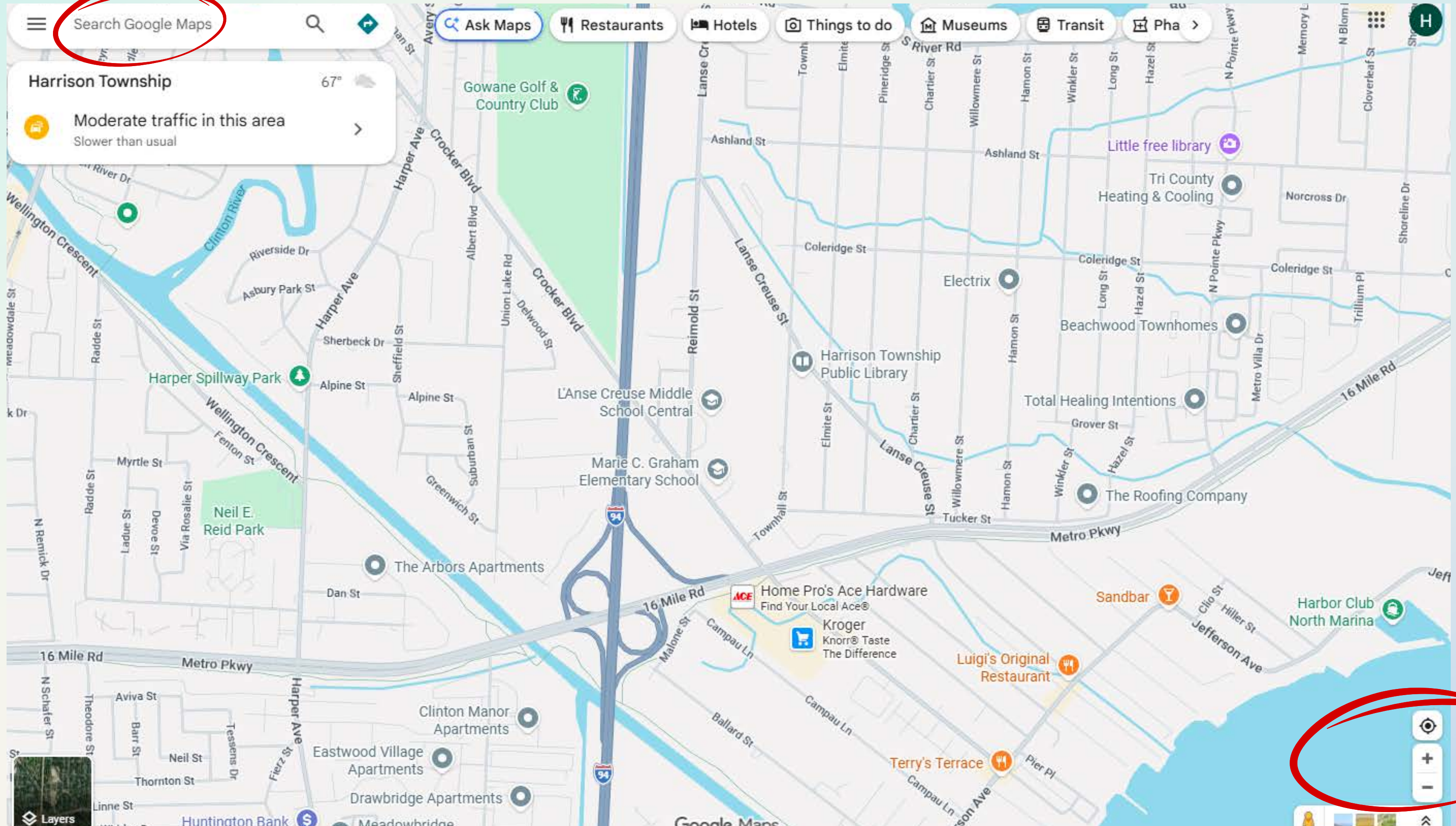
Websites/apps like Hopper.com will show you a color-coded calendar, signifying the trends in flight prices rising/lowering.

Resources for Driving

- **Google Maps (google.com/maps)**
 - Allows you to get directions, browse map for nearby hotels, restaurants, etc.
 - Can be used as a GPS or walking guide
- **Roadtrippers.com**
 - A route planner where you can build an itinerary, add/browse popular attractions or stops, etc.
- **Car rental services**
 - Hotwire
 - Priceline
 - AutSlash
- **Calculate the cost of your road trip**
 - shareyourride.net/roadtrip



google.com/maps



Restaurants

Results ⓘ

Sandbar

4.4 ★★★★★ (730) · \$10–20

Restaurant · 37030 Jefferson Ave

Basic sports bar serving tavern fare

Open · Closes 2 AM

"The prices are minimal for the quality of food, drinks, and service."

Order online

Bentley's Roadhouse

4.5 ★★★★★ (860) · \$10–20

American · 28410 S River Rd

Upbeat bar & grill with live music

Open · Closes 1 AM

"Great service, excellent food and fun atmosphere."

Terry's Terrace

4.2 ★★★★★ (4,023) · \$\$

Seafood · 36470 Jefferson Ave

Steak & seafood pub with arcade games

Open · Closes 10 PM

"Our meals and beverages tasted great, and the service was wonderful."

Reserve a table

Order online

Polski's pub and grub

A Google Maps interface showing a map of the L'Anse Creuse Bay area. The map displays various streets, including 16 Mile Rd, Jefferson Ave, and Metro Pkwy. Several restaurants are marked with red icons and labels: Sandbar, Empire Chinese, Jefferson Street Pub (JSP), Terry's Terrace, Sentimental Lady Saloon, and Harbor Club North Marina. A red arrow points to the 'All filters' button at the top of the map. The map also shows landmarks like L'Anse Creuse Middle School Central and Marie C. Graham Elementary School. The Google Maps logo is visible at the bottom.

Clicking on filters at the top will allow you to browse nearby restaurants, hotels, etc.

Harrison Township Public Library

4.6 ★★★★★ (60)
Public library · ♿

Overview Reviews About

Directions Save Nearby Send to phone Share

38255 Lanse Creuse St Suite A, Harrison Township, MI 48045

Open · Closes 8 PM

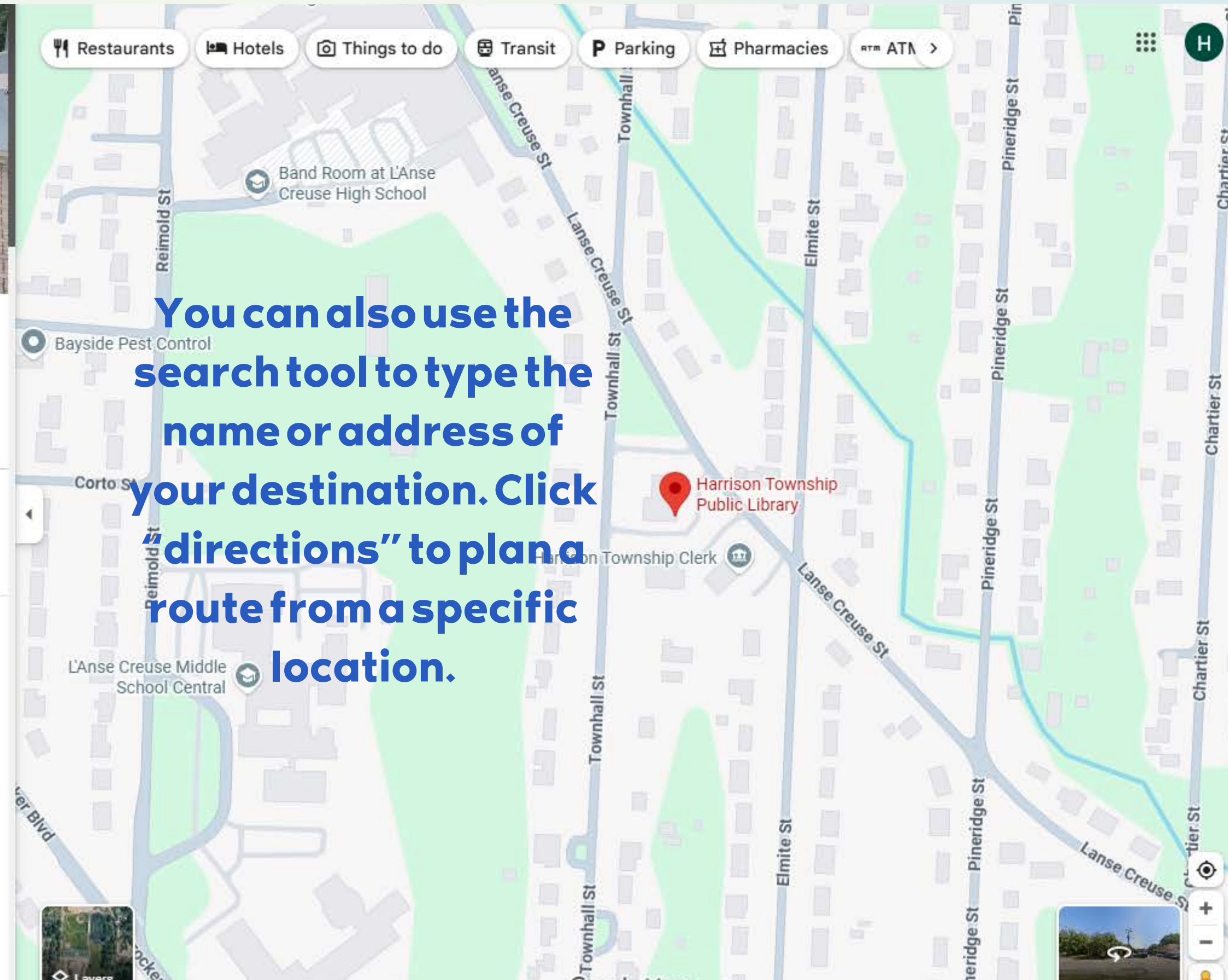
htlibrary.org

(586) 329-1261

H4HX+9P Mt Clemens, Michigan

Your Maps history

Add a label



Best 18 min 1h 56m 4h 25m 1h 13m

Walmart Supercenter, 29176 Van Dyke Av

Harrison Township Public Library, 38255

Add destination

Leave now

Options

Send directions to your phone Copy link

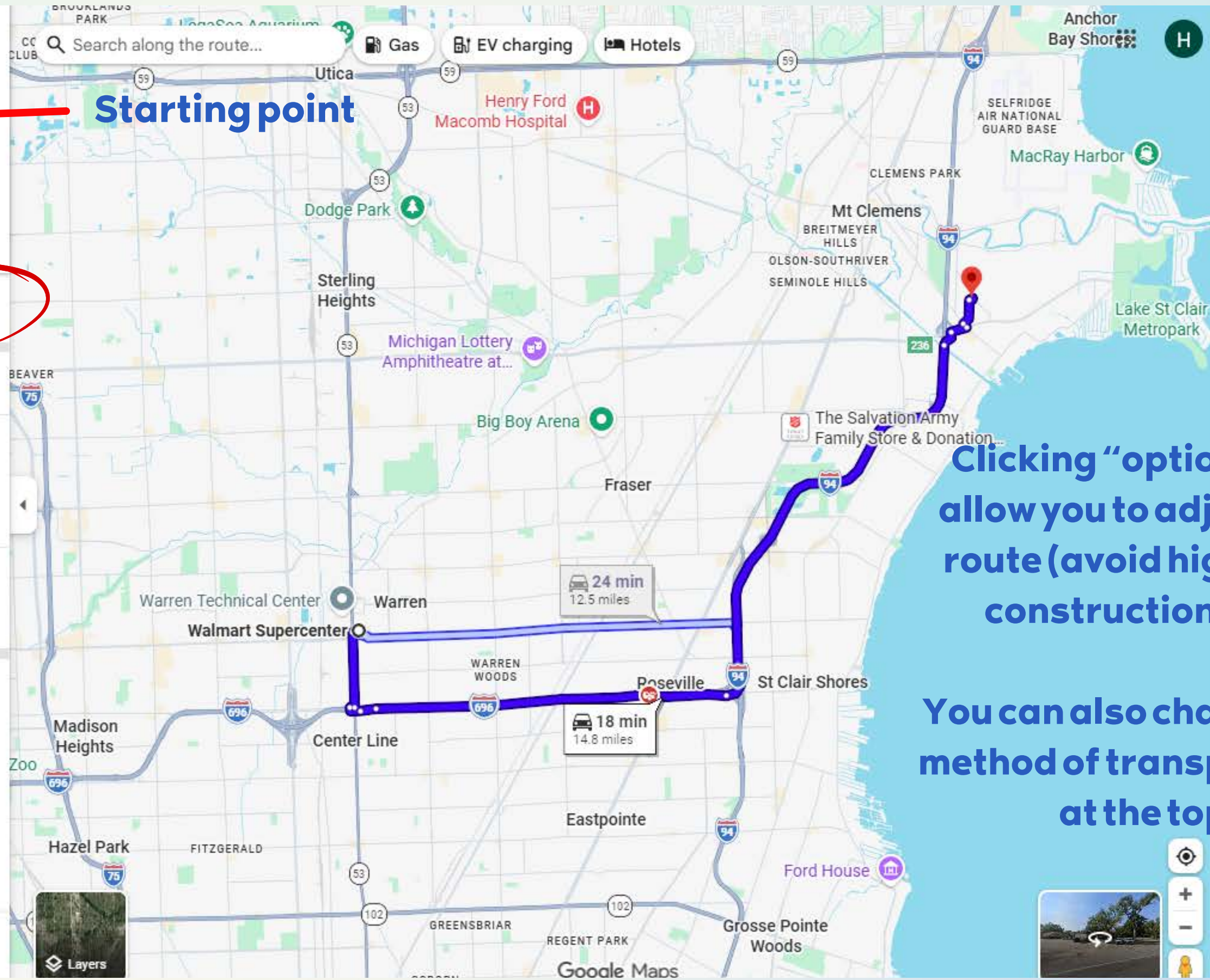
via I-696 E and I-94 E 18 min
Fastest route, the usual traffic 14.8 miles
Details Preview

via 12 Mile Rd and I-94 E 24 min
Some traffic, as usual 12.5 miles

Explore nearby Harrison Township Public Library

Restaurants Hotels Gas stations Parking Lots More

New! Continue your trip, tap the notification on your phone to get directions



Clicking "options" will allow you to adjust your route (avoid highways, construction, etc.)

You can also change your method of transportation at the top.

Your Smartphone's GPS

- **Your smartphone has some kind of Map-related app included on the device**
 - iPhones: Apple Maps
 - Androids: Typically Google Maps
- **If you have a car with bluetooth capabilities, you can use your phone as a GPS**
 - Some cars also have subscription-based GPS apps available



Both Apple Maps and Google Maps allow you to browse nearby restaurants, hotels, etc. and view reviews, operating hours, and other information.

You can also adjust your route to avoid highways, construction, and more.

These apps also work well for planning walking routes.



Resources for Train Transportation

- **Amtrak**

- Michigan has several Amtrak stations located throughout the state. Nearest to Harrison Township are the Troy, Pontiac, Royal Oak, and Detroit stops.
- Downloading the app will allow you to browse, purchase, and view your train tickets.





Round-Trip Rail Passes Auto Train

Use Points

From TRM Troy, MI

To CHI Chicago, IL Union Station

Depart Date 6/4/2026

Return Date 6/6/2026

FIND TRAINS

1 Traveler

Passenger with Disability or Assistance Needed?

May 2026							June 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
31													

Close

Done

Book for the Big Matches

From station to stadium, we're ready to be your ride to the tournament. Book early to secure your seat.

FIND YOUR CITY

1  TRM Troy, MI

 CHI Chicago, IL
Union Station

Thu, Jun 4 | Sat, Jun 6

[Revise Search](#)

 \$0

Select Your Trip

From Troy, MI to Chicago, IL - Union Station

Displaying by

Most Direct

Sort/Filter 

Departure Thursday, June 4

TRM → CHI

[Compare Fare Types](#) 

Lowest Fare

Fastest

[Trip Details](#) 



351
Wolverine

DEPARTS

6:33_a

→
5h 36m

ARRIVES

11:09_a

Coach
from

\$48

Business
from

\$88

Lowest Fare

[Trip Details](#) 



353
Wolverine

DEPARTS

9:04_a

→
5h 58m

ARRIVES

2:02_p

Coach
from

\$48

Business
from

\$88

Only 1 seat left

Resources for Cruises

- **Book early (6 months to a year in advance)**
 - Website cruisecritic.com can sort cruises by popularity as well as region, days at sea, and price.
 - Browse cheap prices using websites like vacationstogo.com.
 - Use the direct cruise line websites to find full details and to book.
- **Book accommodations if needed**
 - specialneedsatsea.com





How to Apply for a Passport

 **Travel.State.Gov**
U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

U.S. Passports | International Travel | U.S. Visas | Intercountry Adoption | International Parental Child Abduction | Replace or Certify Document

Get a Passport | Renew or Replace a Passport | Get My Passport Fast | Prepare to Apply | Passport Help | Legal Matters

[Travel.State.Gov](#) > [U.S. Passports](#) > Prepare to Apply for a Passport Homepage

Passport Forms

- What Form Should I use?
- Get Your Processing Time
- Passport Fees
- Passport Photos
- Citizenship Evidence
- Photo Identification
- Where to Apply
- Replacing Your Passport After A Disaster
- Uploading a Digital Photo
- Applying with a Disability

Prepare to Apply

Learn about the steps for how to apply for or renew your U.S. passport.

[Fill Out Your Form and Print It](#)

[Get Processing Times](#)

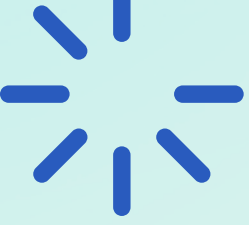
[Cost of your Passport](#)

[How to Submit a Good Photo](#)

Make sure to follow the photo instructions. Passport photos can be taken at CVS, Walgreens, the Post Office, or your local township office.

Passport applications can take weeks to process so do not apply or renew at the last minute. It is best to apply a head of time.

U.S. passports are generally valid for 10 years for adults (age 16 and older) and 5 years for children (under age 16).



How to Apply for a Passport

Home ▸ Departments ▸ Clerk ▸ Passports

PASSPORTS



The Harrison Township Clerk's Office is a Passport Application Acceptance Facility. We also provide photo services on-site for \$20. We process passport applications Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm by appointment only.

Harrison Township Clerk's Office
Passport Application Appointment

🕒 15 min 📍 Clerks Office, 38151 L'Anse Creuse, Harrison Township, MI 48045

All applicants please bring:

- Completed passport application (fillable with BLACK ink only)
- US Department of State fees - Check or Money Order only - (credit cards & cash not)

SHOW MORE

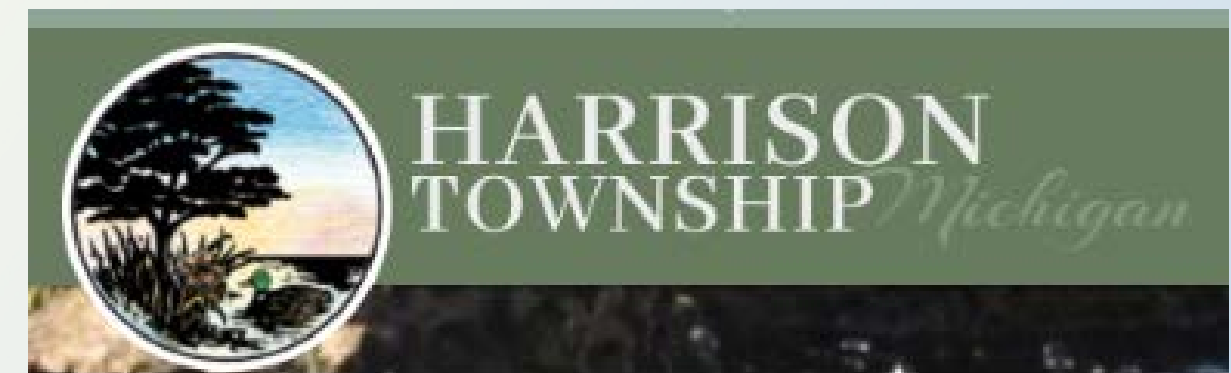
Select a Date & Time

< April 2026 >

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

The Harrison Township Clerk's Office is a Passport Application Acceptance Facility. Go to their website to make an appointment and see a list of items to bring with you to your appointment.

<https://www.harrisontownshipmi.gov/departments/clerk/passports.php>



Using Rideshare Apps

A rideshare app is a mobile application that connects passengers with drivers using personal vehicles for on-demand transportation. These platforms allow users to request rides, track driver locations in real-time, and pay automatically through the app.

- **Uber**
- **Lyft**



Building an Itinerary

- **Browsing things to do**
 - Utilize social media!
 - Facebook, Tiktok, Instagram, YouTube
 - LonelyPlanet.com (they also publish books!)
 - Atlasobscura.com
 - Tripadvisor.com to plan various activities, hotels, etc.
 - Utilize Yelp and Google Reviews to browse honest reviews of stores, restaurants, etc.
- **Take notes**
 - Utilize your phone's notes app, Microsoft Word or Excel, Google Docs, etc.



Yelp and Google Reviews

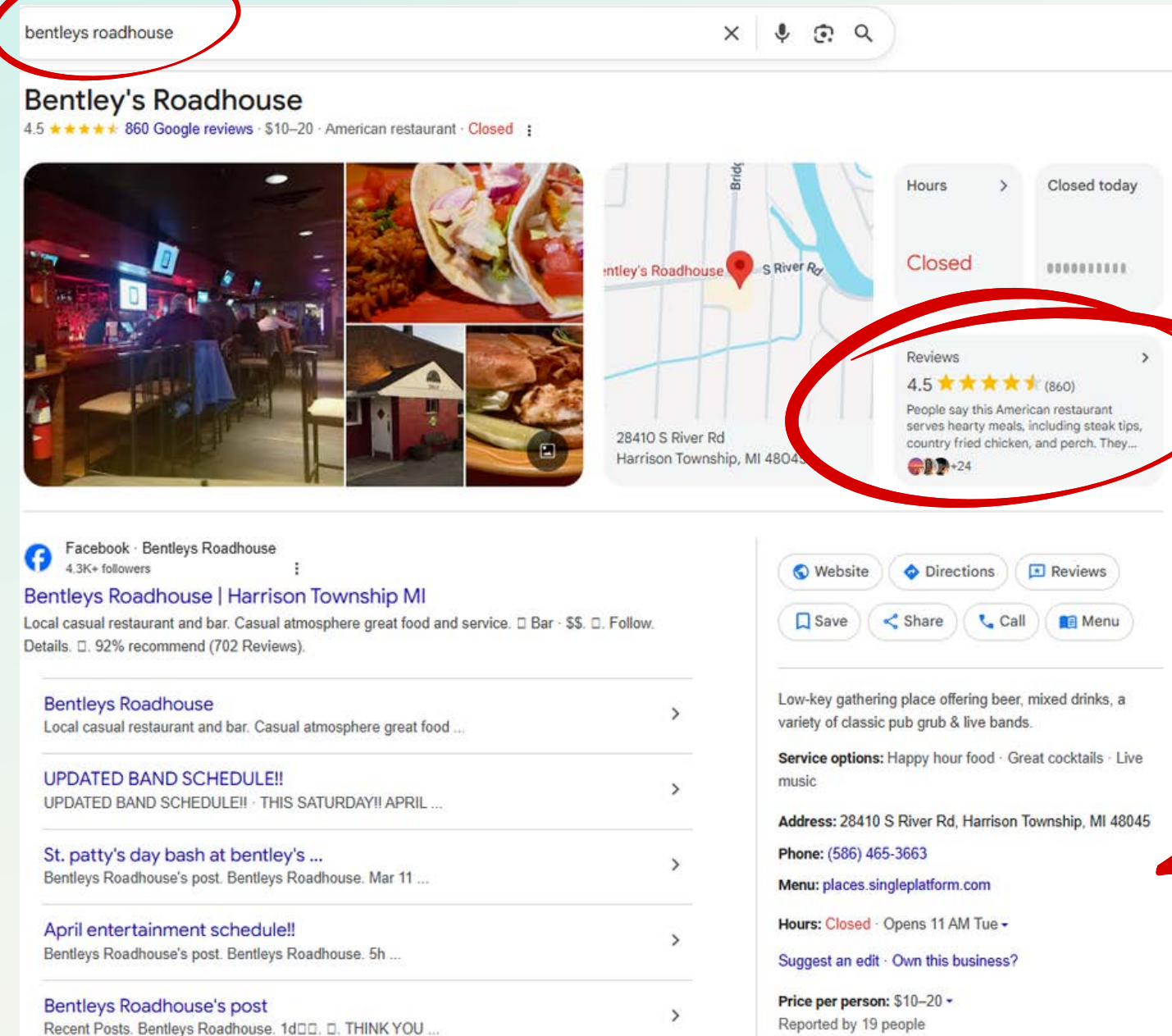


A screenshot of the Yelp website. At the top, the search bar contains "Bentley Roadhouse" and "michigan". Below the search bar, there are tabs for "Restaurants", "Home & Garden", "Auto Services", "Health & Beauty", "Travel & Activities", and "More". On the left side, there are filters for "Price" (ranging from \$ to \$\$\$\$) and "Suggested" (including "Open Now 12:28 PM", "Offers Delivery", "Offers Takeout", "Good for Dinner", "Hot and New", and "Outdoor Seating"). Below these are "Category" (American, Steakhouses, Nightlife, Bars) and "Features" (Good for Lunch, Good for Kids, Good for Groups, Dogs Allowed, Full Bar, Good for Brunch). The main content area shows "Top 10 Best Bentley Roadhouse Near Detroit, Michigan" with a "Sort: Recommended" dropdown. A map on the right shows the Detroit area with red pins. Below the map, there are "Local conversations about 'Bentley Roadhouse'" with user avatars and comments.

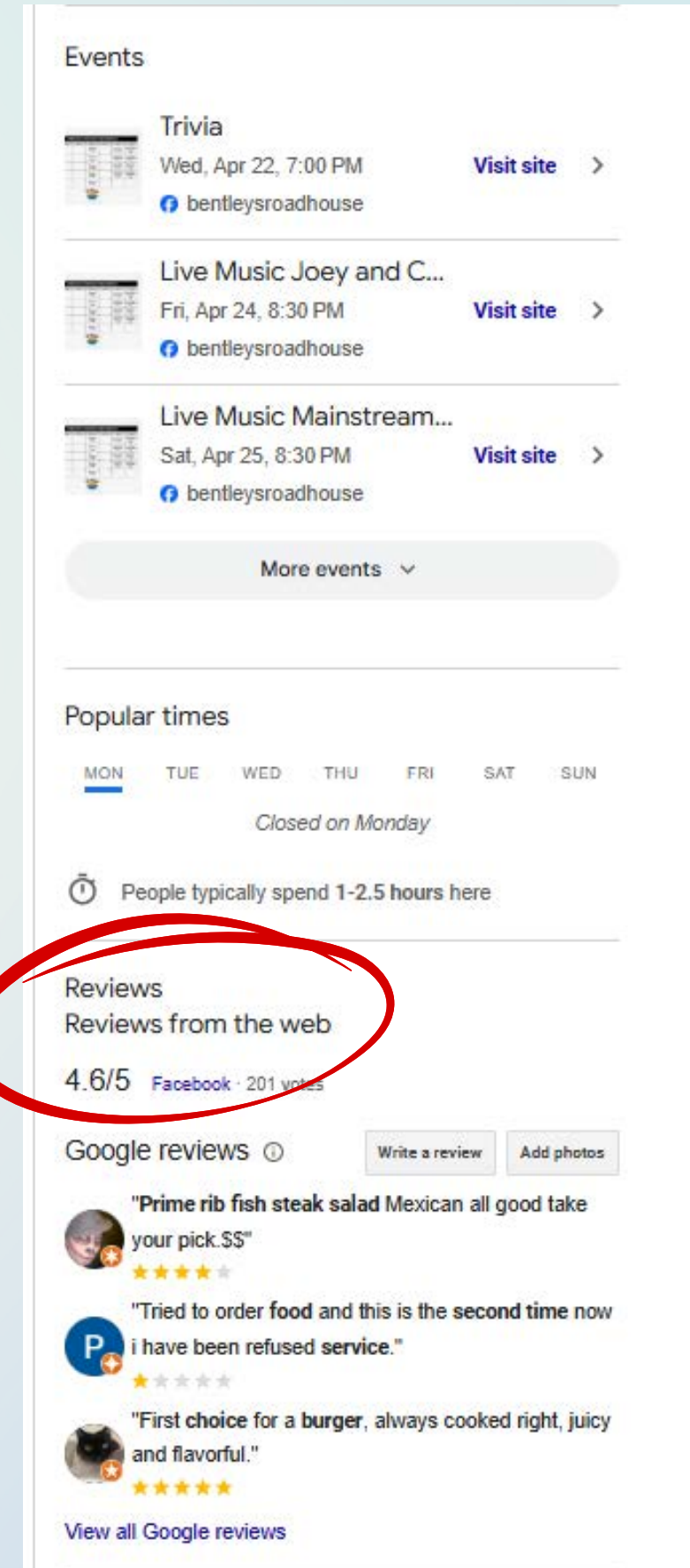
A screenshot of the Yelp search results for "Bentley's Roadhouse". The top result is "1. Bentley's Roadhouse" with a 3.4 rating (73 reviews). It is located in Harrison Township and is closed until 11:00 AM tomorrow. Below the name and rating, there is a photo of a dish. To the right of the photo, there is a red circle around the business name and rating. Below the photo, there are buttons for "American", "Pizza", and "Chicken Wings". Below the business name, there is a section for "More businesses in similar categories". The first result in this section is "2. Terry's Terrace" with a 3.2 rating (532 reviews). It is located in Harrison Township and is open until 10:00 PM. Below the name and rating, there is a photo of the restaurant's exterior. To the right of the photo, there is a red circle around the business name and rating. Below the photo, there are buttons for "Bars" and "American". The second result in this section is "3. Octopus' Beer Garden" with a 4.2 rating (207 reviews). It is located in Mt Clemens and is closed until Thursday. Below the name and rating, there is a photo of a dish. To the right of the photo, there is a red circle around the business name and rating. Below the photo, there are buttons for "Beer Gardens", "Tapas/Small Plates", and "Sandwiches".

Type in the business at the top of the page. A map will appear on the right had side. Scrolling down the page, there will be a list of search results. The left side of the page will have filters if you want to narrow down your search.

Yelp and Google Reviews



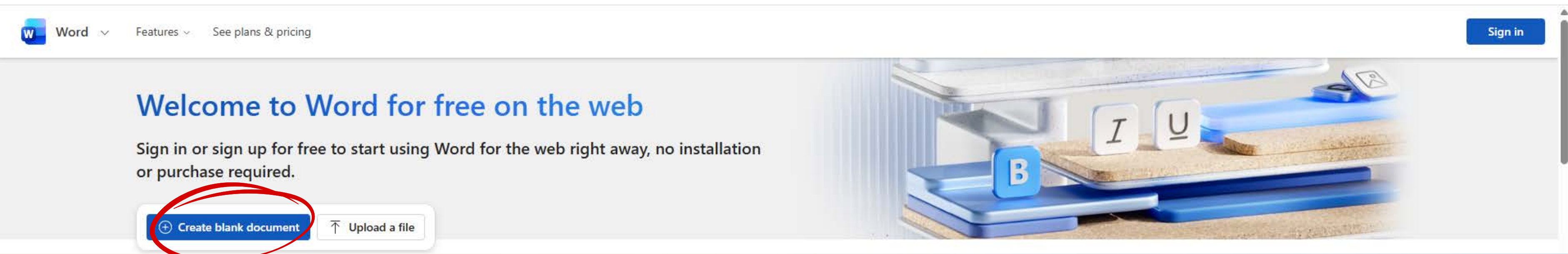
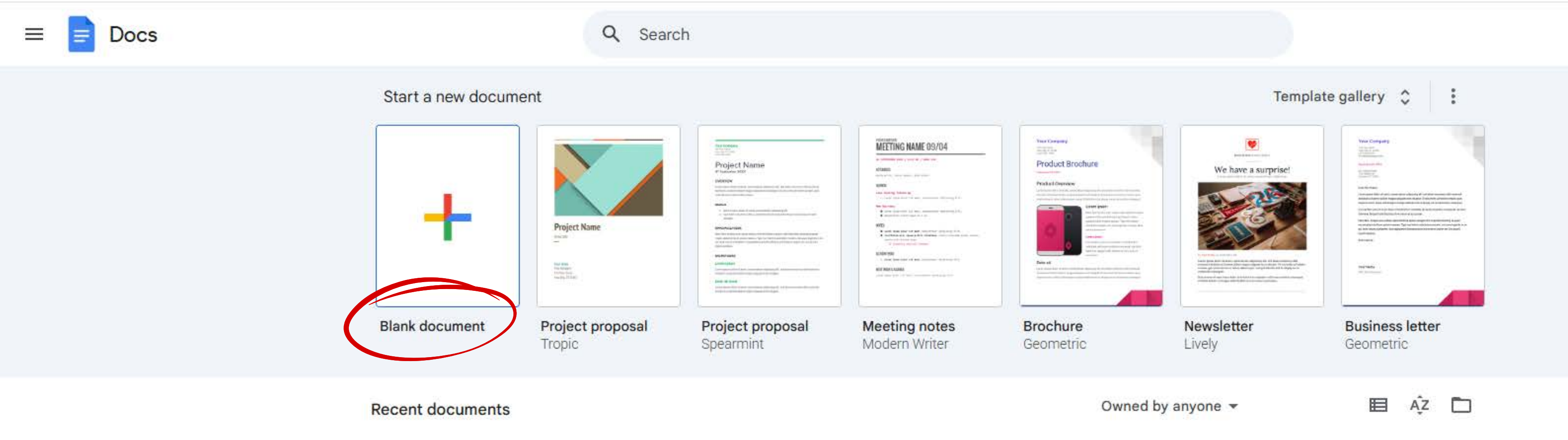
Scrolling down on the search page will give you additional information about the business or restaurant such as "Events", "Popular times of activities", and "Reviews"



Type in the name of the business or restaurant into the google search bar. The next page to pop up will have the businesses' information and a quick view of their information. Click on "Reviews" to see what people have said.

Hours and time of operation, address, phone number, and website

docs.google.com and word.cloud.microsoft/en-us



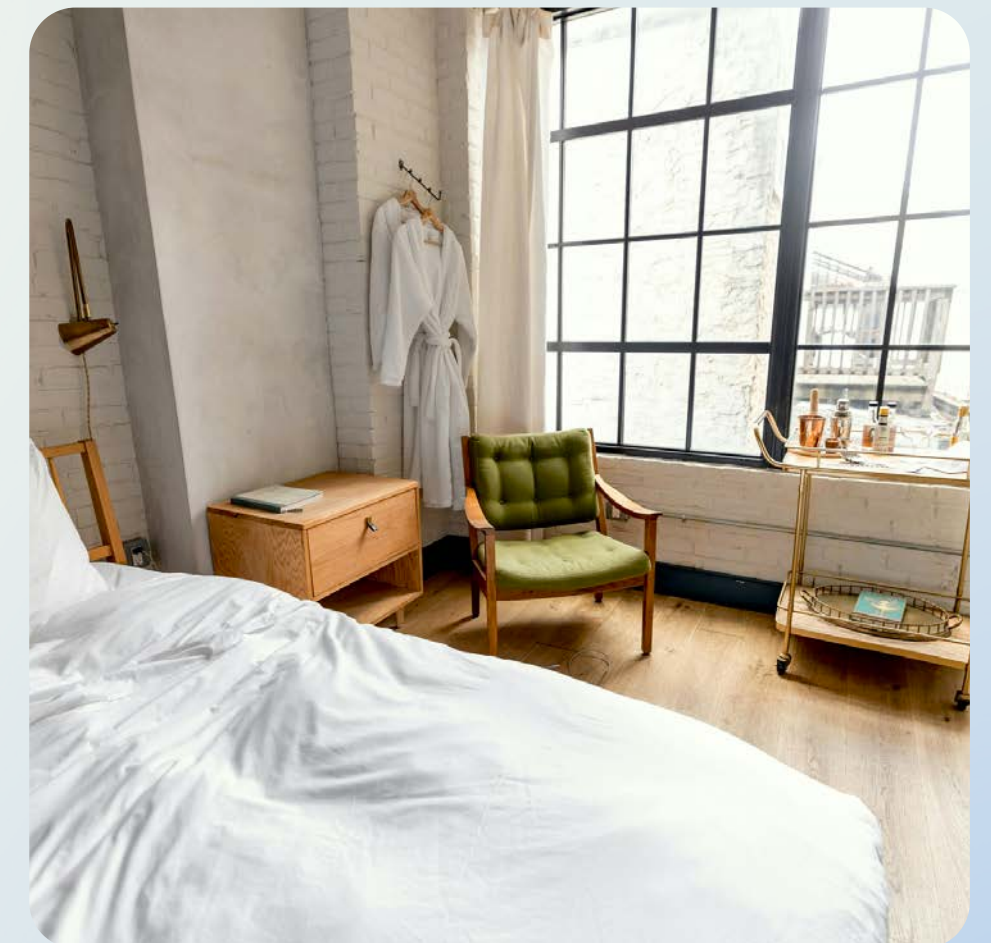
Booking a Hotel

- **Consider booking at least 2 weeks before your stay, if not further in advance**
- **Searching for hotels**
 - Google Travel
 - Kayak
 - Booking.com
- **Be wary of rushed discounts**
 - “50 people booked in the last hour” or “only one available” are often misleading tactics to pressure you into booking.
- **Try to book directly through the hotel’s website**



Using Vacation Rental Services

- **Airbnb (airbnb.com)**
- **VRBO (vrbo.com)**
- **Be careful browsing listings**
 - Hidden fees are common. Make sure to read every rule listed by the host. These will make your total go up significantly.
 - Look closely at the listing's photos and examine the reviews. Ensure the host is reputable and has hosted many people before.
 - Check the cancellation policy.



airbnb.com homepage



Homes



NEW

Experiences



NEW

Services

Become a host



Where
Search destinations

When
Add dates

Who
Add guests

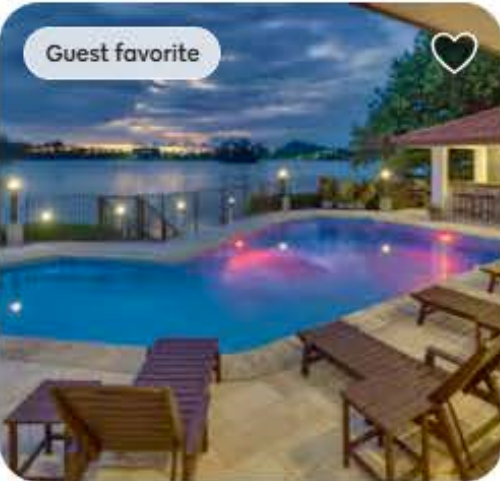
What
Add description



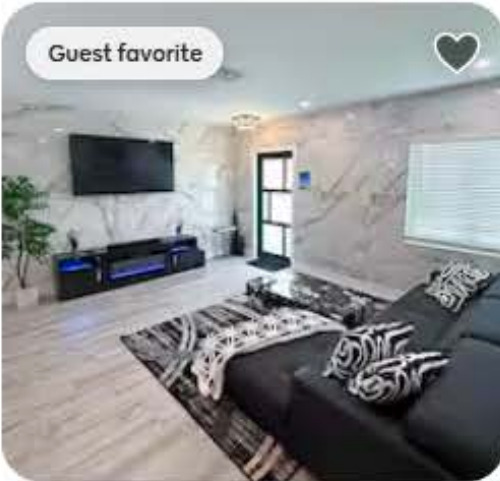
Popular homes in Miami →



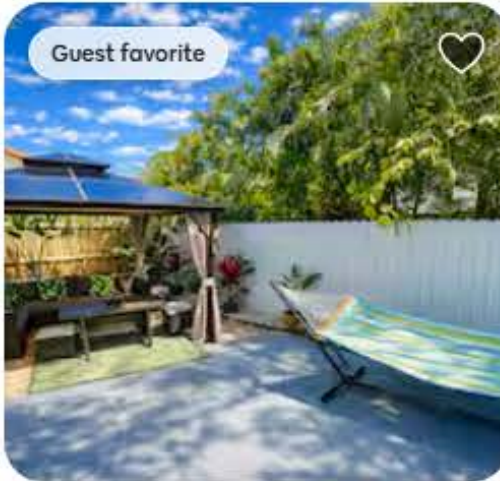
Home in Miami
\$1,163 for 2 nights - ★ 4.96



Home in Miami
\$1,761 for 2 nights - ★ 4.96



Home in Miami
\$1,421 for 2 nights - ★ 4.98



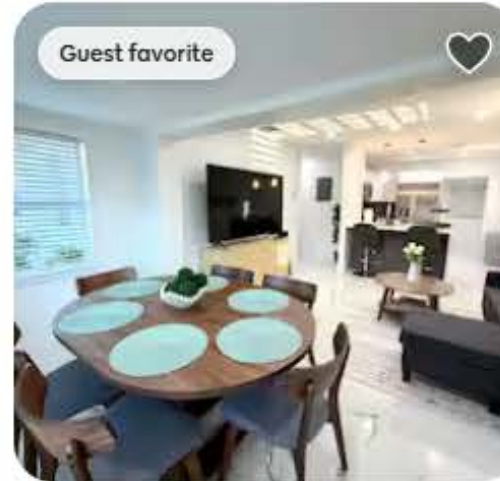
Home in Miami
\$556 for 2 nights - ★ 5.0



Home in Miami Gardens
\$1,541 for 2 nights - ★ 5.0



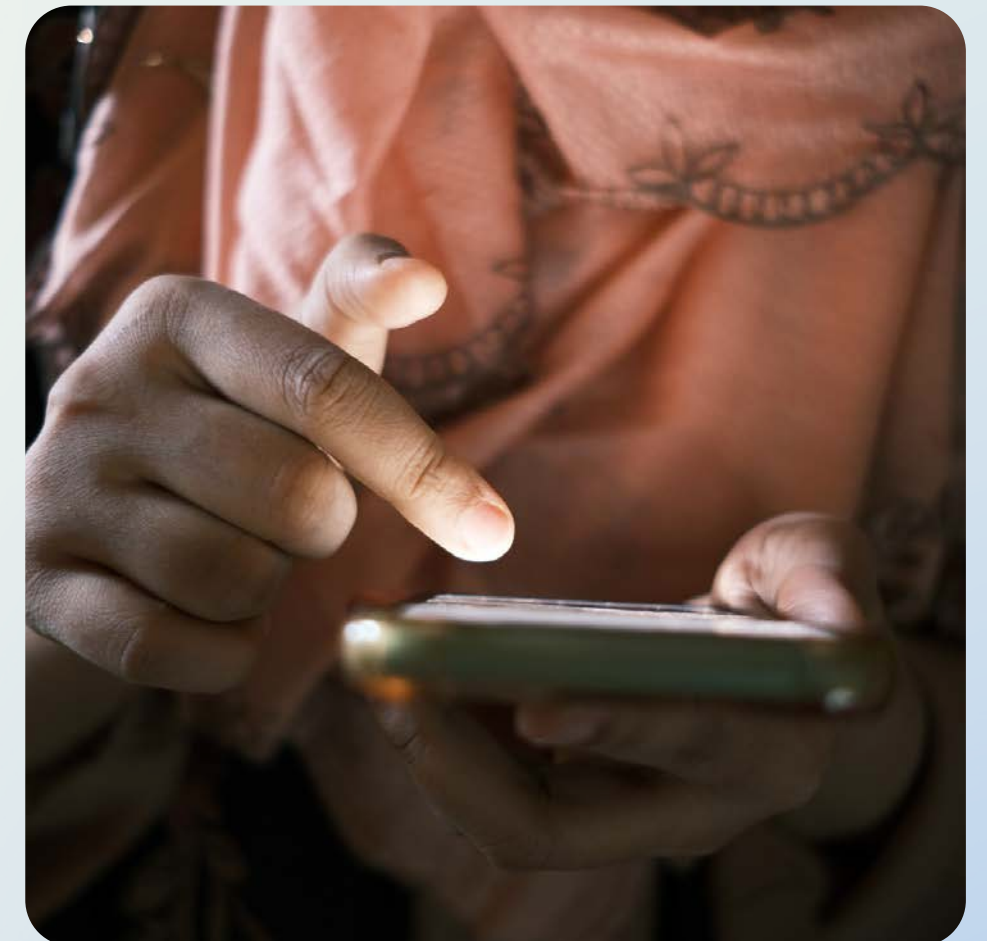
Guesthouse in Miami
\$661 for 2 nights - ★ 4.99

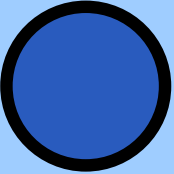


Home in Fort Lauderdale
\$690 for 2 nights - ★ 5.0

Translation Apps and Resources

- **Google Translate:** translate.google.com
 - 249 languages available, offline use, voice-to-text
- **Apple Translate** (an app for iPhone/iPad users only)
- **iTranslate** (app for Android and iPhone, free but has paid upgrades)
- **DuoLingo** (app for learning languages)
- **Transparent Language** (database available with your HTPL card for free! Language learning with interactive exercises and more)





Other Tips and Tricks

- Sign up for newsletters or loyalty programs through various hotels, airlines, etc.
- Technology aside – remember to check out the travel section at the library!
 - Check out the 910s – 940s in nonfiction
 - Lonely Planet, Rick Steves, Fodor's Travel, Frommer's Guides, and DK Eyewitness Travel Guides are some of the most popular and comprehensive series.

Need More Help?

Consumer Reports “DIY Vacation Planning”:

www.consumerreports.org/money/vacations/do-it-yourself-travel-planning-guide-a8341134415/

60 Travel Booking Tips: www.checkbook.org/national/60-travel-booking-tips/

www.harrisantownshipmi.gov/departments/clerk/passports.php