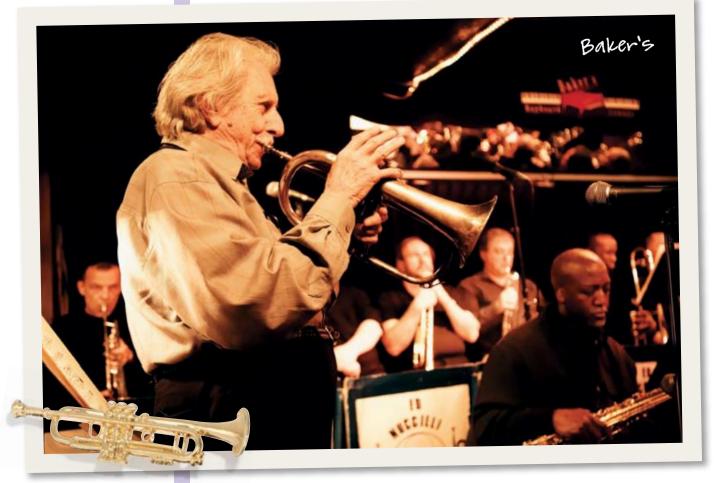


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## **High Notes**

Dig into tapas at the **Dirty Dog Jazz Café** in Grosse
Pointe Farms. The owner
started local jazz label
Mack Avenue Records.
dirtydogjazz.com

Book a room at the Inn on Ferry Street's Owen House, where you can tickle the ivories on the baby grand piano in the parlor. innonferrystreet.com

Visit the studio where legends like Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder created a new sound at the **Motown Historical Museum**. *motownmuseum.com* 

IF YOU ANSWERED MOSTLY A, YOU ARE A:

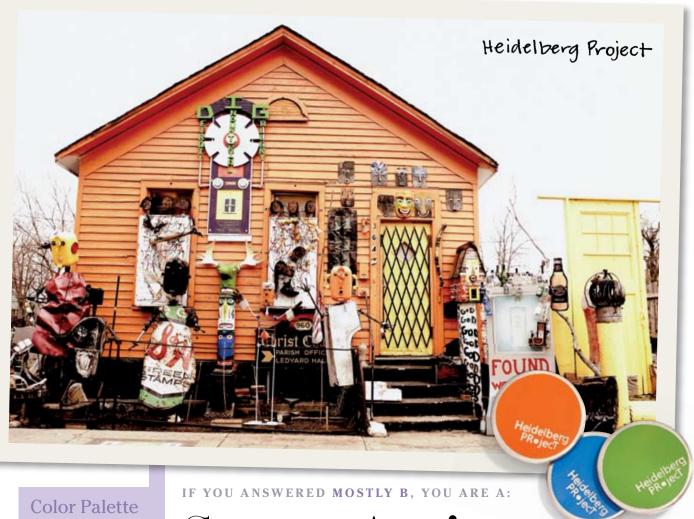
# Jazzophile

When most of us think Detroit music, we think Diana Ross and Stevie Wonder. But we should also think Nina Simone and Oscar Peterson. For decades, the town ranked as one of the top spots in the country for producing and hosting top jazz talent. That legacy lives on today at Baker's Keyboard Lounge. The legendary spot claims to be the longest running jazz club in the world at 74 years and counting. All the big names—from Fats Waller to Nancy Wilson to John Coltrane—have played here.

Today the art deco-style club seats about 100 at cozy booths and tables surrounding the stage, home to a 7-foot Steinway piano handpicked by Art Tatum. There's not a bad

seat in the house, but try to get a two-top table at the foot of the stage to get close to the action. Or hang out at the trademark pianoshaped bar with faux keys. Liberace liked the design so much that he used the same idea for his swimming pool. No matter where you sit, come hungry for soul food like catfish, short ribs, and black-eyed peas. Drinks run the gamut from bottles of Budweiser to the trendiest martinis.

With live music from top local groups Tuesday through Sunday and with a cover of only \$5–\$20, the Lounge is a steal. Just don't expect the owner to honor his posted "ceiling prices" from 1935. Back then, a Bud cost just 31 cents. bakerskeyboardlounge.com



Fuel up for the day with a half-pound burger and sweet potato fries at the nearby **Majestic Café**. majesticdetroit.com

Explore the area's cuttingedge art at the Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit's Considering Detroit exhibit, running now through July 28. mocadetroit.org

Spend the night in room 3C—decorated in the midcentury modern style with George Nelson fixtures—at the Inn at 97 Winder. theinnat97winder.com

# Street Artist

One of the most economically depressed ZIP codes in the country houses some of the quirkiest artwork in the world. The Heidelberg Project on Detroit's East Side features two city blocks of polka-dotted houses, trees hung with stuffed animals, and old shoes arranged as sculptures.

When Tyree Guyton returned to Heidelberg Street after living in Oklahoma, he barely recognized the city of his youth. Encouraged and helped by his grandfather, the artist, his ex-wife, and neighborhood kids took paint-brushes to the blight in 1986. They turned artless lots into "lots of art." Guyton even landed a one-man exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts. But some people panned his work. Prompted in part by neighbors who com-

plained that Heidelberg was an eyesore and a fire hazard, the city tore down 60 percent in 1991 and destroyed another 30 percent in 1999. But the nonprofit project today continues to grow with new works—and deserves a look, as the 275,000 annual visitors show.

Tour the exteriors of eight houses and more than 50 exhibits by car or foot. (Purchase a map that explains the artwork on the Heidelberg website or at the stand on Heidelberg Street during the summer.) You'll see the "Dotty Wotty Mobile," an old car covered in polka dots and stuffed animals; "Faces in the Hood," abandoned car hoods throughout the project painted with self-portraits; and most famous, the "Dotty Wotty House," which Guyton's family owns. heidelberg.org



#### **Exotic Airs**

Try the local favorite hanneth (lamb with rice) at Yemeni eatery **Arabian Village**. 313-841-2550

Do the dabke—the traditional folk dance of Lebanon—during the Arab International Festival from June 20 to June 22. americanarab.com/festival

Spend extra time in the area by overnighting at the historic **Dearborn Inn**. dearborninnmarriott.com



IF YOU ANSWERED MOSTLY C, YOU ARE A:

# Mideast Maven

When Wal-Mart launched its largest line yet of Middle Eastern products this past spring, the mega-retailer started in Dearborn, Michigan. Little wonder. Home to the largest concentration of Arabs in the country, Dearborn—less than 10 miles from downtown Detroit—offers a slice of authentic Arabian life, with Arabic calligraphy on store awnings and spicy aromas beckoning from neighborhood eateries.

To get a taste of this culture, make your way to New Yasmeen Bakery. The place has become the go-to spot for news teams looking for Arab-American viewpoints. Founded in 1986 by Lebanese immigrants and brothers Hussein, Ahmed, and Mohamed Siblini, the bakery took its name from the family bakery back home (yasmeen means jasmine flower).

Today New Yasmeen produces distinctive breads to sell nationwide while also running a 100-seat self-serve café.

One end of the building features a dining area adorned with murals of life in Lebanon. Check out the food displays with cases of dishes like chicken with garlic sauce, stuffed eggplant, and pies filled with spinach and meat. Try *shoumar*, the Siblini brothers' grandmother's recipe of cracked wheat with dill. Save room for cannolis, baklava, and pistachio squares topped with syrup.

You'll hear the buzz of Arabic chatter, so don't be afraid to chime in with a friendly *marhabah* (mar-HA-bah or "hello") and *shokran* (SHO-kran or "thank you") when you order. *yasmeenbakery.com* 



# **Rest Stops**

Dine on Detroit strip steak at the **Whitney**, former home of lumber baron David Whitney Jr. who supplied wood for car parts. thewhitney.com

Check out GM vehicles, from vintage to concept, at the 50,000-square-foot showroom surrounding the **Detroit Marriott**. *detroitmarriott.com* 

Watch the F-150 come together on the modern assembly line at the Ford Rouge Factory Tour. thehenryford.org

IF YOU ANSWERED MOSTLY D, YOU ARE A:

# Motorhead

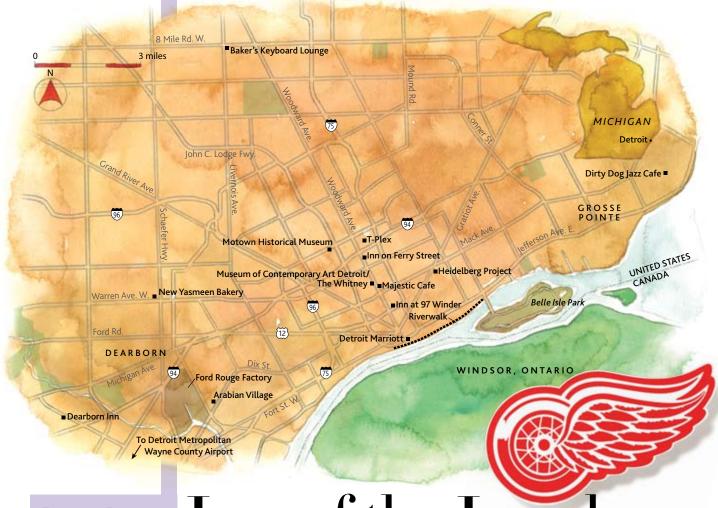
With General Motors turning 100 and Ford Motor Company observing the 100th anniversary of the Model T, American automakers shift into high gear this summer to celebrate the Year of the Car.

Learn about the roadster that first gave wheels to the common man at the 1904-built Ford Piquette Avenue Plant. Now dubbed the Model T Automotive Heritage Complex and nicknamed T-Plex, the plant is the only example of an early Detroit auto factory open to visitors—and only on the first and third Saturdays from May through October (or arrange in advance for a group tour on any day).

The 67,000-square-foot plant looks much as it did a century ago. You'll see the scuffed wooden floors where workers built the first

12,000 Model Ts. Take the same stairs that Ford and associates like Harvey S. Firestone took to the third floor. An exhibit shows a stationary assembly line where the workers, not the cars, moved. The men set up the frame and added the drive train before attaching seats and gas lamps in stall-like bays.

You'll also see the secret Experimental Room where Ford spent hours in his mother's rocking chair doodling ideas for the "Tin Lizzy" and, eventually, dreamed up the basic ideas that led to the development of his revolutionary moving assembly line. Though Ford outgrew the plant in six years, his work here made his fortune: By 1928, he'd sold 15 million Model Ts and controlled 50 percent of the world market. *tplex.org* 



## **Detroit Data**

- 1) Strike Out The city of Detroit claims to have the most registered bowlers in the country—about 70,000.
- 2) It's De-troit When Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac founded the city in 1701, he named it Ville d'Etroit or "city of the strait," from its location between two lakes.
- 3) Oh, Canada! Detroit is the only major U.S. city where you can look south to see Canada—Windsor, Ontario, specifically.
- 4) Born Free The Detroit Zoo was the first in America to feature cageless exhibits that allow animals more freedom to roam.

# Lay of the Land

#### **GET THERE**

Fly In Land at Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (metroairport.com), 15 miles southwest of downtown.

**Get Around** Hop on the elevated People Mover (thepeoplemover.com) for 50 cents to reach 13 downtown stations. To explore the suburbs, take the Smart Bus (smartbus.org), but bring exact change for the \$1.50 regular fare.

**Get Away** Rent a car at the airport to explore outlying areas like Dearborn.

#### TAKE THERE

Sweater Set Temperatures range from 60 to 80 degrees this month so pack a jacket. Bring an umbrella—June averages 3.4 inches of rainfall.

**Snappy Casual** Aside from finer restaurants requiring jackets, men generally wear khaki pants and button-downs while women sport slacks or dresses.

City Casual Let your fashion flag fly high as you explore the D. Anything goes here, from all-out prep to the funkiest fashion trends.

### DO THERE

June 6–8 Browse international art while enjoying ethnic food and music at the 22nd Annual Detroit Festival of the Arts. detroitfestival.com

June 15 Get geeky with auto tech and style on the spectacular grounds of the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House during the EyesOn Design Car Show. eyeson.org

**June 20–23** Try your hand at fishing along Detroit's new RiverWalk during **GM River Days**. *detroitriverdays.com*