Anna's Things To Do

If you're thinking about attending UMAP and you're a bit adventurous, I highly recommend the following places within a short drive from where you'll be staying. Written by Anna Teal, UMAP client.



Frankenmuth, MI

Adorable German town which houses one of the largest Christmas stores in the world called Bronner's. Highly recommend it as you can't help but be happy surrounded by holiday décor while seasonal music floods your brain. We also recommend cruising the strip in downtown Frankenmuth complete with a local brewery (their fried pickles are amazing) and visit the fudge shops for a sweet treat!



Mackinaw City/Mackinac Island, MI

The little city downtown is very quaint. It's filled with restaurants, fudge shops and little local stores. Hop a ferry to Mackinac Island (the ferry ride is about 20 min.). They dump you in the center of the town where you can walk to stores, restaurants and the beautiful Grand Hotel. If you're traveling with someone with disabilities, you can get a carriage ride around town. They don't allow any automobiles on the island so that's about your only means of quick transportation. I will say I was worried about all the walking since Ryan still struggles with his stride, but he did better than I thought he would.



Hell, MI

I mean, all us caretakers have been there and back, right? This little town is strangely beautiful, despite the name. It's a very pretty drive and fun little town to have lunch and visit their gift shop to purchase a memento from your visit.



Ford Museum, Dearborn, MI

This museum was my favorite of all time! If you love cars, go! It houses several famous historical cars including the limo Kennedy was shot in. It also houses the chair Lincoln was shot in. If you need a palate cleanser after all that depressing historical memorabilia, you can get your photo taken next to the Oscar Myer Weiner Mobile.

MARY A. RACKHAM INSTITUTE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR LANGUAGE AND LITERACY