

Holy Cow! The International Self-Determination Conference is only weeks away! Here are some little known facts when it comes to life in the big “D”.

### **Did You Know?**

- Martha Reeves (of the Vandellas), R & B, soul singer is a Detroit City Council member? **AND** will be performing at the International Conference on Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>???
- Famous people from Detroit include; Tim Allen, Aretha Franklin, Robin Williams, Stevie Wonder, Rosa Parks, Joe Louis, Madonna, Kid Rock, Eminem, Ted Nugent, Bob Seger, Tom Selleck, Francis Ford Coppola and Smokey Robinson.
- Detroit is home to the world’s only floating post office, the J.W. Westcott II, which has it’s own zip code and can be found on the Detroit River.
- The best way to discover Detroit is to ride The People Mover, which is an automated train that winds its way through downtown.
- The nation’s first soda, Vernors, was created by Detroit pharmacist James Vernor in 1862.
- Detroit is the potato chip capital of the world, based on consumption!

### **Having trouble deciding what to do during your visit? Look no further.!**

What’s there to do in Detroit you ask? There is SO much to experience, it’s difficult to know where to begin. Let’s start at the Renaissance Center, the “city within a city” (it even has its own zip code!) where the conference is being held. If you don’t want to venture out too far, everything you want is right here. You can choose from dozens of restaurants including Potbelly Sandwich Works ([www.potbelly.com](http://www.potbelly.com)), Andiamo ([www.andiamoitalia.com](http://www.andiamoitalia.com)) or The River Café ([www.detroitmarriott.com/dining](http://www.detroitmarriott.com/dining)), where you can dine and watch the freighters go by on the Detroit River. Are you a shopaholic? Check out The Detroit Locker Room ([detroitlockerroom@gmail.com](mailto:detroitlockerroom@gmail.com)) for sports souvenirs, Jos. A. Bank ([www.josbank.com](http://www.josbank.com)) for men’s clothing or Scentsations Boutique for smelly stuff. There’s also entertainment at Seldom Blues Jazz Club ([www.seldomblues.com](http://www.seldomblues.com)) that overlooks the Detroit River or the Riverfront 4 Theaters ([www.riverfront4.com](http://www.riverfront4.com)) if you want to catch a flick.

If you’d like to explore downtown Detroit, there’s plenty to keep you busy. How about a museum? The Motown Historical Museum ([www.motownmuseum.com](http://www.motownmuseum.com)), The Museum of Contemporary Art ([www.mocadetroit.org](http://www.mocadetroit.org)), The Tuskegee Airmen National Historical Museum ([www.tuskegeeairmenmuseum.com](http://www.tuskegeeairmenmuseum.com)), Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Isle ([www.glmi.org](http://www.glmi.org)), The Detroit Children’s Museum ([www.detroitchildrensmuseum.org](http://www.detroitchildrensmuseum.org)), The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History ([www.maah-detroit.org](http://www.maah-detroit.org)) and The Detroit Historical Museum ([www.detroithistorical.org](http://www.detroithistorical.org)). If you want to venture farther, The Henry Ford Museum ([www.thehenryford.org](http://www.thehenryford.org)), Arab American Museum ([www.arabamericanmuseum.org](http://www.arabamericanmuseum.org)) and Holocaust Memorial Center ([www.holocaustcenter.org](http://www.holocaustcenter.org)) are all just 20 minutes away.

You can enjoy the (cross your fingers!) beautiful May weather and stroll along the brand new RiverWalk directly behind the Ren Cen. The evening is especially nice because you can see Canada and Detroit all lit up, as well as our gorgeous Ambassador Bridge ([www.ambassadorbridge.com](http://www.ambassadorbridge.com)) that connects the U.S. to Canada. Detroit is also home to Belle Isle, which has America's largest city-owned island park. There is a conservatory, nature zoo, coast guard station, rock sculptures...so many things to see there! If you arrive in town a day early you can catch The Detroit Electronic Festival ([www.demf.com](http://www.demf.com)) in Hart Plaza. Detroit's Historic Eastern Market ([www.detroiteasternmarket.com](http://www.detroiteasternmarket.com)) has all kinds of scrumptious produce, meats, candies, spices and nuts. Next door, The Rocky Peanut Company ([www.rockypeanut.com](http://www.rockypeanut.com)) has yummy dried fruits and nuts.

Detroit is home to three world-class casinos: The MotorCity Casino ([www.motorcitycasino.com](http://www.motorcitycasino.com)), Greektown Casino ([www.greektowncasino.com](http://www.greektowncasino.com)) and the MGM Grand casino ([www.mgmgranddetroit.com](http://www.mgmgranddetroit.com)) and just across the border is Casino Windsor ([www.harrahs.com/casinos/casino-windsor](http://www.harrahs.com/casinos/casino-windsor)). All four locations offer top-notch entertainment, dining and thousands and thousands of square footage of slots and tables for your gaming pleasure.

Tours are available at several places. Ford Field ([www.fordfield.com](http://www.fordfield.com)), the Fox Theater ([www.olympiaentertainment.com](http://www.olympiaentertainment.com)), the Ren Cen ([www.shoprencen.com](http://www.shoprencen.com)) and you can also contact Feet on the Street ([www.FeetonTheStreetD@aol.com](mailto:www.FeetonTheStreetD@aol.com)), Michigan Millennium Metro Tours ([www.tourdetroitnow.com](http://www.tourdetroitnow.com)) or Inside Detroit ([www.insidedetroit.com](http://www.insidedetroit.com)) to schedule a tour of Detroit.

There are numerous possibilities in Detroit when it comes to satisfying your cravings! Like seafood? Try Tom's Oyster Bar ([www.tomsoysterbar.com](http://www.tomsoysterbar.com)) with fish flown in from both coasts. Or Fishbone's Rhythm Kitchen Café ([www.fishbonesusa.com](http://www.fishbonesusa.com)) for sushi and catch some entertainment while you're there! Prefer a sports bar atmosphere? Visit Hockeytown Café ([www.hockeytowncafe.com](http://www.hockeytowncafe.com)), Cheli's Chili Bar ([www.chelischilibar.com](http://www.chelischilibar.com)) or The Detroit Beer Company ([www.detroitbeerco.com](http://www.detroitbeerco.com)) to watch a game on one of several big screen TV's! Flood's Bar & Grille has soul food and live entertainment. Greektown features several restaurants with mouth-watering Greek cuisine such as New Hellas Café, New Parthenon Restaurant, PizzaPapalis ([www.pizzapapalis.com](http://www.pizzapapalis.com)) and Pegasus ([www.pegasustaverna.com](http://www.pegasustaverna.com).) Mexicantown ([www.mexicantown.org](http://www.mexicantown.org)) is also a favorite of Detroiters with Los Galanes and Xochimilco (pronounced Sho-sha-mee-ko...we just say So-shees!).

If you need more information on where to go during your stay in Detroit, check out [www.visitdetroit.org](http://www.visitdetroit.org). The site also offers pages of coupons and deals! We look forward to seeing you next month at the conference!