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LOTS TO DO IN SANDUSKY, ERIE COUNTY

SANDUSKY, Ohio – Looking for a reason to extend your North American In-Water Boat Show day-trip into a long weekend? Go ahead and take Friday off, because there is a lot to do in Sandusky and Erie County.

“The area is continuously growing,” said Show Manager Ken Alvey. “With so many attractions and things to do, it deserves more than just a one-day boat show visit. You could easily find things to do on a getaway weekend for any family within driving or boating distance.”

The most popular attraction for many is the world-famous Cedar Point Amusement Park.

Named the “Best Amusement Park in the World” for many years running, Cedar Point is a 364-acre amusement park/resort that is home to the most rides (69) and roller coasters (17) on the planet.

Featuring some of the tallest and fastest scream machines around, this thrill-seeker’s paradise also boasts a gigantic water park (Soak City), four resort hotels, a luxury RV campground including cottages and cabins, two large marinas, an entertainment complex (Challenge Park), award-winning live shows, gift shops and restaurants.

Just outside the gates of Cedar Point is its year-round water park, Castaway Bay. With plenty of activities for guests of all ages and thrill-tolerance levels, the main attraction is the Rendezvous Run indoor water coaster. The park also offers water slides, a wave pool, the Lookout Lagoon Family Fun-house, and The Grotto, an indoor/outdoor whirlpool.

The Castaway Bay resort includes 237 hotel rooms in a number of configurations and price points (room rates include park admission), three restaurants, a huge arcade, a craft and child activity center and meeting spaces.

In addition to Cedar Point’s Soak City and Castaway Bay, the area boasts two other top-notch water parks. The Kalahari is a brand new authentic African themed resort that features Ohio’s largest indoor water park.

Guests can enjoy Spa Kalahari, offering the finest in spa treatments, indoor mini-golf, the Big Game Room (one of Ohio’s largest arcades), four spectacular retail shopping outlets, eight unique dining and lounge options, 596 beautifully appointed hotel rooms and suites, scheduled activities and events for

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the whole family.

Great Wolf Lodge, Ohio's first indoor water park resort, is a North Woods-themed family resort featuring 271 suites, a 42,000 square foot indoor entertainment area, which includes a 200,000 gallon indoor water park with nine slides and five pools, a 100-game arcade, Cub's Club children's activities, two restaurants, and gift shops.

Just down the road from Sandusky in Port Clinton is the African Safari Wildlife Park. This drive-through safari showcases exotic animals, camel and pony rides, entertaining and educational animal shows, pig races, a gift shop, picnic facilities, a snack bar and a grill. Free parking and free animal food area available to all guests.

The fabulous Lake Erie Islands are just a short hop via ferry (the speedy Jet Express or the leisurely Miller Boat Line) from Sandusky and Port Clinton. The largest American island in Lake Erie, Kelleys Island sports the largest and most easily accessible glacial grooves in the world. Other opportunities include bird watching, hiking and walking, scuba diving among the many shipwrecks in the area, sea kayaking and much more.

Located on South Bass Island in Lake Erie's western basin, Put-in-Bay offers a large variety of live musical entertainment, historical sites, museums, recreational activities, island tours, camping, shopping and dining. Proud home of Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial and one of the richest walleye, bass and perch fishing areas in the country, Put-in-Bay appeals to more than 1 million visitors each year.

“Between the Lake Erie Islands, Sandusky and Port Clinton, there’s more than enough to do for an entire week, let alone the weekend of the boat show. Golf courses, Thomas Edison’s birthplace, museums, wineries, and nature preserves make this region really spectacular. The area is really a hidden jewel just waiting to be discovered,” Alvey said.