WEST MICHIGAN HOME & LAKES

Holland, Michigan City Guide

A local guide to homes, waterfront, and life in Holland, Michigan

Jeff Newberg Lakeshore Group | Lake Homes Realty

Holland, Michigan

Holland brings together a lively year-round community, a walkable downtown, established neighborhoods and exceptional access to the water. The city sits in the Holland area along Lake Macatawa with Lake Michigan just to the west, making it a natural fit for buyers who want both community amenities and a true West Michigan lakeshore lifestyle.

For West Michigan Home & Lakes, Holland is more than a destination. It is a place to live, work, own a home, enjoy the water and explore some of the region's most recognizable shoreline.

Holland Real Estate & Homes

Housing in and around Holland is varied. Buyers can explore established city neighborhoods, condos, newer residential areas, homes near Lake Macatawa, properties closer to Lake Michigan and land in the surrounding area. The right location depends on what matters most to you: downtown access, neighborhood character, boating, beach proximity, acreage, commute or a particular type of home.

For help finding homes in the Holland area, contact Jeff Newberg at jnewberg@lakehomes.com

Lake Macatawa & Lake Michigan

Water is a defining part of Holland. Lake Macatawa provides boating, paddling, fishing and waterfront-living opportunities, while the channel at the west end connects with Lake Michigan. Holland State Park includes separate Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan units on the north side of that channel, giving residents and visitors access to two very different waterfront experiences.

For a home buyer, “near the water” can mean very different things here. A Lake Macatawa waterfront property, a home near Holland State Park, a neighborhood house with quick beach access and a property farther inland can each offer a different lifestyle and price point. That is why the search should begin with how you actually plan to use the area.

Holland State Park & Big Red

Holland State Park is one of the area's signature outdoor destinations. Michigan DNR highlights its sugar-sand beaches, sunsets, paddling, fishing and views of the iconic Big Red lighthouse. The park has both Lake Michigan and Lake Macatawa areas, along with access to nearby nonmotorized trails.

Neighborhoods in the City of Holland

Holland is not one single neighborhood. The City of Holland publishes guides for several distinct areas, including Downtown, Historic, Holland Heights, Hope, Maplewood, Rosa Parks, Washington Square and Westside. Each deserves its own closer look as West Michigan Home & Lakes expands.

When searching for a home, it is also important to distinguish properties inside the City of Holland from homes using a Holland mailing address in surrounding townships and communities. We will make that distinction clear throughout our guides.

Downtown Holland

Downtown is a major part of Holland's identity, with shopping, dining, events, cultural attractions and nearby residential areas. For buyers who value being close to restaurants, community events and everyday amenities, downtown and the surrounding neighborhoods deserve a close look.

Parks, Beaches & Outdoor Life

The City of Holland currently describes a system of 23 parks and about 500 acres of parkland. Beyond the city system, the Holland area offers Lake Michigan beaches, dunes, trails and waterfront recreation. Mt. Pisgah's dune stairway and overlook provides views toward Lake Michigan, Lake Macatawa, marinas and Big Red.

Boating & Fishing

Holland works particularly well for people who want boating to be part of everyday life. Lake Macatawa provides protected inland-lake recreation and access toward Lake Michigan. Buyers considering waterfront or boat-oriented property should look beyond the view and ask practical questions about water depth, docks, shoreline, marina access, launch options, channel access and property-specific restrictions.

Things to Do in Holland

Holland's Dutch heritage, Tulip Time, downtown events, Windmill Island Gardens, museums, beaches and outdoor recreation give the community a recognizable identity throughout the year. The strongest reason to consider Holland, however, may be the combination: a real year-round city with lakeshore recreation close at hand.

What Is It Like to Live in Holland?

Living in Holland can look very different depending on where you choose to be. Some buyers want a neighborhood near downtown. Others want easy access to Lake Michigan, a waterfront setting on Lake Macatawa, newer construction or more land outside the city. A useful home search starts by narrowing the lifestyle first, then the property.

Buying a Home in Holland

If you are buying in the Holland area, think beyond bedrooms and square footage. Location relative to downtown, the lakeshore and major roads can change the experience of a property. Waterfront buyers have another layer of due diligence involving frontage, shoreline, docks, water access, flood considerations, wells or septic where applicable, and any association or local restrictions.

Selling a Holland Home

A strong marketing plan should explain not only the home, but also its location and lifestyle. For waterfront and lakeshore-area properties, buyers may care about details that are easy to overlook in a standard listing: water access, frontage, views, dock possibilities, proximity to beaches or marinas and how the property connects to the surrounding community.

Holland FAQ

Is Holland, Michigan on Lake Michigan?

The Holland area reaches the Lake Michigan shoreline, while the City of Holland is centered east of the lakeshore near Lake Macatawa. Holland State Park sits about four miles west of the city and provides Lake Michigan access.

Can you boat between Lake Macatawa and Lake Michigan?

Yes. Lake Macatawa connects to Lake Michigan through the channel at Holland's lakeshore. Conditions, vessel requirements and current navigation information should always be checked before heading out.

What is Holland State Park known for?

Its Lake Michigan beach, sunsets, Lake Macatawa access, recreation and views of Big Red lighthouse.

Does Holland have distinct neighborhoods?

Yes. The City of Holland publishes guides for Downtown, Historic, Holland Heights, Hope, Maplewood, Rosa Parks, Washington Square and Westside, among others in the broader community conversation.

Are there waterfront homes around Holland?

Yes. The Holland area includes waterfront and water-oriented opportunities around Lake Macatawa and near Lake Michigan, along with homes that provide convenient access without direct frontage.

Thinking About Making Holland Home?

Whether you are looking for a home in town, property near Lake Michigan, a waterfront home around Lake Macatawa or land in the Holland area, start with the lifestyle you want and then narrow the search.

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Have a question about buying in Holland? Call or email Jeff.

Photography Credit

Recommended site treatment: Photography: Joel Bradshaw. Use clean, licensed, high-resolution originals supplied by Joel after final image selection.

Research Sources

Primary sources used to verify location, parks, neighborhoods, lake access and visitor information:

- City of Holland - Neighborhood Descriptions and Guides
- City of Holland - Parks
- Michigan DNR - Holland State Park
- Holland Area Visitors Bureau - Welcome to Holland
- Holland Area Visitors Bureau - Things to Do
- Holland Area Visitors Bureau - Mt. Pisgah