The inaugural voyage of the first steamship – 65 kinds of fish and 29 species of waterfowl – was the beginning of Detroit’s thriving market. The Detroit River offered a means of transportation and trade, connecting Lake Erie to Lake St. Clair and the Great Lakes system. This waterway was vital for the movement of goods to and from the marketplace. These eventually became essential for the city’s development, allowing for the transportation of vital resources such as drinking water and a highway on which the farmer transported goods to and from the marketplace. These eventually became essential for the city’s development, allowing for the transportation of vital resources such as drinking water and a highway on which the farmer transported goods.

Birds, fish, and other forms of life flourished in the Detroit River, providing a vibrant tapestry of life that was integral to the city’s early success. The river was a lifeline for the city, connecting it to other Midwestern cities and allowing for the exchange of goods and ideas. As the city grew, so too did its reliance on the river.

July 1701 on the south bank of the river, Detroit was named by French explorer尚普兰. The name “Detroit” means “rock stone” in French. The city’s rich history is etched into the bricks and stones of its buildings, each telling a story of its own. The Detroit River, a symbol of progress and growth, continues to flow, a testament to the city’s resilience and strength.

THE DETROIT RIVERFRONT
Welcome to the Detroit Riverfront. Detroit is a city of skylines, A Place to Play, a Place to Ponder, and a Place to Dream. A place to celebrate the past, present, and future. Here are just a few of the things you can experience along the Detroit Riverfront.

THE DETROIT RIVERFRONT Has Been the Site of Some of Our Loneliest Moments and Our Most Memorable Celebrations. The river was a vital part of Detroit’s history, connecting the city to other parts of the country and serving as a symbol of the city’s growth and development.

Join us as a Friend of the Conservancy by becoming a monthly donor. Your support helps the Conservancy bring life back to the Detroit Riverfront and serve as an anchor for economic development – all while working collaboratively to create more thriving, walkable and connected communities within Detroit. Please consider making a donation to help ensure the Detroit Riverfront remains the vibrant riverfront it is today.

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing and preserving the Detroit Riverfront, making it more accessible and enjoyable for all. Our mission is to create a vibrant, accessible, and beautiful riverfront that could be enjoyed by all.

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POINTS OF INTEREST

WALKING TOUR

Tours are available twice daily from Memorial Fountain (4E) during Memorial Fountain Tour (8:30 am) and Free Walking Tour (11:30 am).

GO TOURING

Tour the Detroit riverfront via MoGo BikeShare for a different perspective. Tours are available between the Jefferson Avenue exits from the Lodge Freeway and I-375.

CONCERTS + EVENTS

For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org.

DINING

Downtown (5B,C) - Hart Plaza (5D) - Cobo Center (4D) - Joe Muer's (6E) - Andrews on the Corner (10E) - Rattlesnake Club (10E) - Stroh River Place (10E) - Atwater Block Brewery (10D) - They Say (10D) - The Detroit Princess detroitprincess.com - Limelight (14E) - Mt. Elliott Park (13E) - Chene Park (9E) - Island View (11A) - Andiamo's (6E) - Riverwalk Café (5E, 15D) - Riverwalk Café (7E, 13E) - Talon/Roberts Riverwalk Hotel (11E) - DMC RiverWalkers - Baptism of Our Lord (10B)

WHAT TO DO ON THE RIVERFRONT

Visit detroitriverfront.org for details on concerts + events, walks and runs by the same regulations established at other riverfront attractions along the People Mover route, and programming.

IN-SPITE-OF-ITALY

Founded 1958, the Italian Heritage Festival is the longest running celebration of Italian culture in the United States.

WALCOTT TOWER

Visit detroitriverfront.org for information about special events, walks and runs by the same regulations established at other riverfront attractions along the People Mover route, and programming.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING

For information about special events, walks and runs by the same regulations established at other riverfront attractions along the People Mover route, and programming.

RULES + REGULATIONS

WHILE IN THE PARK

Be responsible of other guests’ activities. Parking in public garages and lots is at your own risk and convenience. It is prohibited to fish or feed wildlife in the park. Fishing is permitted in designated areas.

Fishing is permitted in designated areas. Their are several public parking options near the riverfront in downtown Detroit. Access to the riverfront can also be attained at the marked stations. For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org. For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org.

Walking dock area is on street and access is prevented.

Be respectful of other guests around you. Friends, families and visitation are welcome when on a leash and when Waste bags are provided. Commercial uses, permission is needed. Please contact our Communications team at 313 566 8240. For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org.

2. The Detroit riverfront is governed and monitored by the City of Detroit. For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org.

3. Dogs are welcome when on a leash and waste bags are provided. Commercial uses, permission is needed. Please contact our Communications team at 313 566 8240. For more information on restaurants and entertainment, visit our web site at detroitriverfront.org.

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