

TOLEDO >

IF YOU ARE NEW TO THE TOLEDO REGION OR JUST VISITING, THESE ARE SOME TERMS THAT YOU ARE LIKELY TO HEAR AROUND TOWN:

THE GLASS CITY

Toledo earned the nickname of the Glass City because of its historic innovation in many aspects of the glass industry including windows, bottles, windshields, light bulbs, solar energy equipment, construction materials and glass art. Several large glass companies originated in Toledo including Owens-Illinois, Owens Corning, Libbey Glass, Pilkington North America, and Therma-Tru, as well as multiple spinoffs and startups with large manufacturing facilities like Johns Manville and First Solar. In 1936, the first building to be completely covered in glass was constructed in Toledo for the Owens-Illinois Glass Company. In the 1960s, the Studio Glass Movement was born in Toledo, and the Toledo Museum of Art (TMA) became the first museum to build a facility and studio specifically designed for teaching glass working techniques. In 2006, the TMA constructed the Museum's Glass Pavilion.

FROGTOWN

Toledo strategically sits along the banks of the Maumee River, just north of what was once the Great Black Swamp. This swamp was full of frogs, giving way to the nickname "Frogtown." In 2001, a public art campaign in Downtown Toledo, coordinated by The Arts Commission, placed over 100 large fiberglass frogs around the city. Each frog was decorated by a local artist and sponsored by locally owned businesses and non-profit groups.

BLACK SWAMP

The Great Black Swamp was a glacially fed wetland in northwest Ohio and extreme northeast Indiana. Gradually drained and settled in the second half of the 19th century, it is now highly productive farm land. The Great Black Swamp extended from Lake Erie to Indiana. It was the last area of Ohio to be settled. Bowling Green is the largest city now in the remnants of this vast wetland, and every September, the Black Swamp Arts Festival takes place in downtown Bowling Green. Started in 1993, the festival has grown in size and prestige.

MAUMEE RIVER

The Maumee River flows from Fort Wayne, Indiana through a major portion of the Toledo Region into Downtown Toledo before ultimately supplying 5% of Lake Erie's water. The Maumee River has the largest watershed of any Great Lakes river which allows crops to grow very well in the region.

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WALLEYE RUN

No, they do not run in the typical sense of the word. A walleye is a freshwater fish native to the Northern United States. The name "walleye" comes from the fact that the fish's eyes point outward as if looking at the walls. Each March, the walleye migrate or "run" up the Maumee River to spawn. According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the annual walleye run up the Maumee River is one of the largest migrations of riverbound walleyes east of the Mississippi. The Maumee River Walleye Run has become a top location for sport fisherman from around the continent. On many days, hundreds of fisherman can be seen for miles wading out into the chilly water casting their lines and lures.

MAD ANTHONY WAYNE

Anthony Wayne was a United States Army officer, statesman, and member of the United States House of Representatives. Wayne adopted a military career at the outset of the American Revolutionary War, where his military exploits and fiery personality quickly earned him promotion to brigadier general and the nickname "Mad Anthony." He later served as General in Chief of the Army and commanded the Legion of the United States. He is perhaps best known for winning the Battle of Fallen Timbers, which removed Native American claims to Ohio and the surrounding area. A major thoroughfare and local school district is named after General Anthony Wayne.

LAKE ERIE

The area surrounding Lake Erie was originally inhabited by the Erie Native American tribe, from whom the lake takes its name. The lake was carved out by the receding glaciers of the Great Ice Age which can still be seen in the largest, accessible glacial grooves in the world on Kelleys Island. Lake Erie is the smallest of the Great Lakes with an average depth of only about 62 feet. Being so shallow, it warms rapidly in the spring and summer and frequently freezes over in winter. The Lake is host to 24 islands including Put-in-Bay, South Bass Island, and Kelley's Islands, which are popular tourist destinations. During the War of 1812, Lake Erie played a strategic role, most famously in the Battle of Lake Erie, where Oliver Hazard Perry defeated the British in a sea contest near Put-in-Bay. The victory is commemorated with the Perry Monument on South Bass Island.

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FALLEN TIMBERS

The Battle of Fallen Timbers was the culminating event that demonstrated the tenacity of the American people in their quest for western expansion and the struggle for dominance in the Old Northwest Territory. The events resulted in the dispossession of American Indian tribes and a loss of colonial territory for the British military and settlers.

The Fallen Timbers Battlefield and Fort Miamis National Historic Site is managed by Metroparks of the Toledo Area. It is also an Affiliated Unit of the National Park Service.

Fallen Timbers is actually three sites, all of which are open to the public, and plans are being made to add a visitors center and educational exhibits.

Fallen Timbers Battlefield — The property is located in Maumee Ohio at the intersection of US23/I-475 and US24 (Anthony Wayne Trail). It is open to the public as part of the Metroparks of the Toledo Area. It features a 1.5 mile walking/running trail.

Fallen Timbers Monument — This impressive monument to the important battle is across the Anthony Wayne Trail from the actual battlefield. A bike/pedestrian bridge connects the two sites. The monument is situated on a bluff overlooking Side Cut Metropark and the beautiful Maumee River.

Fort Miamis — The British fort, located several miles away on River Road, played a role in the Battle of Fallen Timbers and, later, the War of 1812. The park is open, and much of the earthworks used to create the fort are still visible.

MARATHON CLASSIC

The Marathon Classic, in full the Marathon Classic Presented by Owens Corning and Owens-Illinois, is a women's professional golf tournament on the LPGA Tour. It was founded in 1984 and has been played yearly, except in 1986 and 2011, in Sylvania, Ohio, a suburb northwest of Toledo.

The tournament was founded after PGA Tour caddie Judd Silverman, a Toledo native, sought to bring a ladies professional golf tournament to his hometown. He contacted sponsors and actor Jamie Farr, also a Toledo native, brought his name and several of his celebrity friends to the tournament.

Throughout the history of the event, children's charities in Northwest Ohio and Southern Michigan have been the charitable beneficiaries of the tournament. Toledo loves Jeep. The brand is a part of Toledo's heritage. Jeep dates back to World

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JEEP

War II when the Army needed something rugged to replace the motorcycle as the recon and dispatch vehicle.

The origin of the Jeep name remains unclear. Some say it came from a phonetic version of the “GP.” Others attribute it to the small character, Jeep, from Popeye comic strips. Like the car, Jeep the character could travel anywhere despite his size. In 1946, Willys-Overland copyrighted the “Jeep” name and rolled out the Jeep CJ-2A, a “civilian” version of the military Jeep that traded its gun mounts for more mundane tasks. It featured a power takeoff that made it capable of serving as a small tractor. It also could take four people to church on Sunday.

The North Assembly Plant in Toledo is still making Jeep for the world. It is currently the only place in the world making the Jeep Wrangler and produces nearly a half a million per year.

JAMIE FARR

Jamie Farr is an American television, film, and theatre actor best known for having played the role of cross-dressing Corporal (later Sergeant) Maxwell Q. Klinger in the CBS television sitcom M*A*S*H. Farr was born in Toledo and exemplified his love for the area with frequent mentions of Tony Packo’s hot dogs and the Toledo Mud Hens baseball. Farr also lent his name to the Jamie Farr LPGA Classic which was recently renamed the Marathon Classic. In 1998, the park where Farr used to hang out when he was younger was renamed “Jamie Farr Park” in his honor.

PACKO'S/HOT DOGS

Tony Packo’s Cafe is a restaurant that started in the Hungarian neighborhood of Birmingham, on the east side of Toledo, Ohio. The restaurant became famous when it was mentioned in several M*A*S*H episodes and is noted for its signature sandwich and large collection of hot dog buns signed by celebrities. Tony’s signature “sausage-and-sauce sandwich” on rye was first made when he decided to add a spicy chili sauce to his sandwiches for more flavor. The “hot dog” is really a Hungarian sausage called Kolbász, not unlike the Polish kielbasa, which is about twice the diameter of a conventional hot dog. Packo’s has grown over the years and currently has multiple locations in addition to the original located on Front Street.

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Baseball and hockey are both big in Toledo. Without a major league sports team within the boundaries, the minor league teams have stepped up and built a strong tradition in Toledo. In fact, the city was recently named the #1 Minor League Sports Market.

MUD HENS

Professional baseball had been played off and on in Toledo since 1883, but the Mud Hens era began in 1896 with the “Swamp Angels,” who played in the Interstate League. They played in Bay View Park located near marshland inhabited by American coots, also known as “mud hens.” For this reason, the local press soon dubbed the team the “Mud Hens”—a nickname that has stuck to Toledo baseball teams for all but a few years since. The team currently roosts at Fifth Third Field in Downtown Toledo.

WALLEYE

The Toledo Walleye were founded in 1991 as the Toledo Storm, playing their home games at Toledo Sports Arena across the river from downtown Toledo. The Storm were the first hockey team to play in Toledo since the International Hockey League’s Toledo Goaldiggers suspended operations in 1986. The team currently makes its home in the Huntington Center in Downtown Toledo. In 2014, the Toledo Walleye played the first ever outdoor hockey game at Fifth Third Field.

23, 475, 75

The intersection of major highways in the Toledo Region make it easy to get around. Often referred to by their numbers, US 23, Interstate 475 and Interstate 75 help thousands of commuters get to work and play each day.

Interstate 75—A major north–south Interstate Highway in the Great Lakes and Southeastern regions of the United States. Interstate 75 is the seventh longest interstate highway, the second longest north-south after Interstate 95, and passes through six different states: Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, and Michigan.

Interstate 475—A half-beltway bypassing Downtown Toledo on its western side as mostly a north-south segment and a largely east-west segment on the north side of Toledo. It is much less direct than its parent I-75 through Toledo; the entire route of I-475 uses 20 miles to connect exits 12 miles apart on I-75.

US 23—A long north-south U.S. Highway that runs from Jacksonville, Florida to Mackinaw City, Michigan. It passes through Toledo and crosses into Michigan. The interconnectivity of these highways within the region is a major reason why Toledoans can “get anywhere in 20 minutes.”

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UT VS. BGSU

The Battle of I-75 is the annual college football rivalry game between Mid-American Conference members Bowling Green State University (BGSU) and the University of Toledo (UT). The battle earned its name because the universities are separated by only 25 miles along Interstate 75 (I-75). Over the years, the Bowling Green Falcons and Toledo Rockets have exchanged two traveling trophies: the Peace Pipe Trophy (1980–2010), and the Battle of I-75 Trophy (2011–present).

The awarding of the Peace Pipe Trophy was discontinued after the 2010 game upon conversations with members of the Native American community. The Peace Pipe Trophy is permanently housed in the UT football trophy case because the Rockets won the most recent battle for the Peace Pipe in 2010. Beginning in 2011, the two schools started playing for the Battle of I-75. UT leads the trophy rivalry 20–15 overall, although, BGSU leads the all-time rivalry with a 39-36-4 record.

THE GLASS BOWL

The Glass Bowl is the stadium and home field of the University of Toledo Rockets. It is located on the school's Bancroft Campus and is known for its blend of old and new characteristics. Originally known as University Stadium, it was built in 1936 as a Works Progress Administration project. In 1990, a three-story press box, which also includes 40 luxury suites, a 400-seat Stadium Club and sports information offices, was built. The three-story press box is the second largest in the nation.

In 1961, the University of Toledo procured a genuine rocket from the U.S. Army missile program. The one-ton rocket, which sits outside the Glass Bowl, is aimed to hit the 50-yard line of arch-rival Bowling Green's Doyt Perry Stadium.

OSU/MICHIGAN

In 1835-1836, there was a boundary dispute between the State of Ohio and the adjoining Michigan territory over a strip of land on which Toledo is located. This dispute eventually became known as the Michigan-Ohio War.

Today, that dispute is a little bit different. Fans of the University of Michigan and The Ohio State University battle over which school is better athletically. Much like the Michigan-Ohio War, this battle is largely bloodless with the major event taking place each November when the two schools' football teams take the field. Located between Ann Arbor and Columbus, the respective homes of U of M and OSU, makes Toledo the perfect place for passionate fans of both teams. Fans suit up in their favorite gear, tailgate, host parties and revel in the rivalry between the two Big Ten Powerhouses.

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