

Buy
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2008 Holiday
Gift Guide



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BMN's 2008 Holiday Gift Guide

This guide is designed to give great examples of Michigan gifts from around the state. Websites have been provided to help you make your purchase online or to find a retailer near you. Please support local businesses this holiday season—If we give them our green, we'll keep them out of the red!

BBQ Accessories

Michigan Picnic Gift by Sansonetti – Holly Township www.sansonettifoods.com

Help your favorite grillmaster spice up a backyard barbecue with this tantalizing trio of Michigan Maple Barbecue Sauce, Grilled Salsa, and Spicy Curry Mustard. Ideal for backyard barbequers

Wood BBQ Planks by Great Lakes Grilling – Grand Rapids www.greatlakesgrilling.com

A variety of wooden planks for cooking over open flames are available. The incredible flavors of wood, such as Cedar, Sugar Maple, Alder, Hickory, Mesquite and even Oak from old wine barrels, are infused into foods when these are used to grill or bake.

Griddle Q by Little Griddle Inc. – Sterling Heights www.littlegriddle.com

Originally designed by a tool & die maker so a boys' Royal Rangers group could cook huge breakfasts for campouts, this griddle turns a standard cooking surface of a gas barbecue grill into a full-size, flat, low-stick cooking surface. It is a 12-gauge stainless steel cooking apparatus that fits easily and securely on an outdoor barbecue grill, providing a whole new world of outdoor cooking possibilities.

Beauty & Spa Products

Handcrafted Soap Box by Great Lakes Soap Co. – Comstock Park www.greatlakessoap.com

Most women will love this beautiful gift box, made with handmade paper and real pressed flowers and leaves from the garden, and filled with your choice of five bars of soap like apple spice, cucumber melon, jasmine, sandalwood or many more.

Aromatherapy Travel Kit by Ravenwood – Traverse City www.ravenwoodspa.com

This is an excellent choice for someone on-the-go who relishes a little pampering. They come in a variety of themes like active, healing, and relaxation. Each kit contains these sample-sized products: Massage Oil, Body Crème, Air/Body Spritzer, Soap, Incense with burner, Salve and Candle Tin.

Fragrance Jars by The Great Lakes Natural Soap Company. www.michigansoap.com

Perfect as hostess gifts or for moms, these aromatic creations enhance the scent of a room without a burning wick. The jars come in 7oz or 12oz options and a plethora of fragrances including: Northern Lights, Mackinaw Island Lilac Profusion, Michigan Apple Spice, Wild Blueberry, and Pine Forest.

Candles

Rustic Tree Candle by Bullfrog Candles – Charlevoix www.bullfrogcandles.com

Bullfrog makes an extensive collection of charming decorative candles for any occasion. Their holiday collection is stunning, and makes fantastic party gifts--or select the perfect style to compliment a loved one's living or dining room.

Honey Pot by Soy Happy Candles – St. Clair Shores www.soyhappycandles.net

This is a versatile line of affordable, scented candles made exclusively from soy. Benefits of soy include enhancing fragrance oils, cleaning easily with soap and water, and supporting local farmers. The honey pot is a beautiful 9oz glass jar candle that comes in luscious flavors like Banana Nut Bread, Gingerbread, and Christmas Splendor.

Linen Fresheners by Up North Candle Company – Grand Blanc www.upnorthcandlecompany.com

The creative folks at Up North Candle Company have taken their sensational scents and created a truly unique aromatic experience. These Fresh Scents can be used to freshen fabrics, bedding, curtains, carpets, sofas, cars or just about any area of the home or office. Among the familiar names and scents are Frankenmuth Frost, Holland Tulip Festival, Lake Michigan, and Petosky Pine.

Charities

Adopt-a-Family by Volunteers of America-Michigan – Oak Park www.voami.org

If able, why not add someone else to the gift list this year? Volunteers of America-Michigan's Adopt-A-Family program matches families and seniors in need with individual sponsors who "adopt" them for the holidays, providing new clothes, toys and a wonderful holiday dinner to those who face significant hardship. \$20 provides an entertaining toy for a child.

Coffee for Our Troops by Coffee Beanery – Flushing www.coffeebeanery.com

Join Michigan's own Coffee Beanery in donating coffee to our military troops overseas. You can donate a pound of your favorite coffee by selecting "To Our Troops" in the "Send to" location. The Coffee beanery will also donate a pound of coffee for every pound that you donate. All coffee donations will be sent via "Operation Care Packages" which will forward your donation to our deployed troops throughout the world. (If you have members that are active military and would like them to receive care packages, you can enroll them in Operation Care Packages by visiting <http://www.operationcarepackages.org/submittroops.html>).

Memorial Tree by Greening of Detroit – Detroit www.greeningofdetroit.com

Honor someone you love and help make the planet healthier at the same time. Each year, The Greening of Detroit selects a memorial grove site, which may be located in a park, schoolyard, boulevard or major thoroughfare. Honorees receive an invitation to the planting event and a permanent marker bearing the honoree's name will be installed at the planting site.

Children's Gifts

Foreign Language Blocks by Uncle Goose – Grand Rapids www.lindenwoodinc.com

Learning a foreign language is easiest while young. These beautifully crafted wooden alphabet blocks are available in Arabic, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Italian, Norwegian, Polish, Russian, Spanish, and Swedish sets. (English, math and sign language in Braille are also available).

Wooden Rocking Horse by Charlie's Woodshop – Chesaning www.charlieswoodshop.com

Simplify a child's life with this classic toy. Available in a variety of styles and colors, these sturdy creations are designed to safely entertain children and can hold up to 150 lbs.

Mac's Mackinac Island Adventure by Mary Beth Vachon – Arbutus Press, Traverse City
This colorful children's book follows the escapades of a horse named Mac, who is determined to go on a vacation to Mackinac Island.

Curious Kids' Activity Guide to Michigan by Emily Eisbruch – Ann Arbor
Great for education and entertainment, this activity book explores many special aspects of Michigan. Featured topics include Michigan's cities, lakes, islands, bridges, highways, festivals, museums, symbols, inventors, collegiate sports, sailboat racing and more.

Michigan Chillers by Johnathan Rand – AudioCraft Publishing, Indian River
Rand has created a ghastly collection of popular horror-themed books for youth. No region is safe with titles like *Aliens Attack Alpena*, *Sinister Spiders of Saginaw*, *Kreepy Klowns of Kalamazoo*, and *Terror stalks Traverse City*. The author has also written a series for the younger set called *Freddie Fernortner Fearless First Grader*

Tracks magazine by Michigan United Conservation Clubs www.mucc.org
Best suited for ages 10-12, each issue is filled with information about Michigan's native wildlife and habitats. It's an ideal gift for young and inquisitive animal lovers.

Mathmosis www.mathmosis.com
Michigan's new economy will be built on the skills of solid mathematicians. Give a youngster you love a head start with Mathmosis products, which use music and play to make math fun and easy to comprehend.

Chefs or Novice Cooks

6-Spice Sampler by Detroit Spice Company – Detroit www.detroitspiceco.com
Six great seasoning blends designed to capture the culinary essence of the city. Flavors include Detroit steak seasoning, jerk seasoning, barbecue rub, Greektown seasoning, Mexicantown seasoning, and Middle Eastern seasoning. Each comes in a decorative 2 oz tin.

Cherry Home Companion by Patty LaNoue Stearns – Arbutus Press, Traverse City
From the cherry capital of the world, writer Patty LaNoue Stearns gathers cherry recipes from the finest restaurants and chefs in Michigan. Stearns features over 130 tested recipes ranging from a "Simple Cherry Smoothie" to "Chocolate Bread and Butter Pudding with Cherries".

Fork in the Road by Eric Villegas – Huron River Press, Ann Arbor
The Okemos chef, and television host of the syndicated PBS series by the same name, highlights Michigan culinary adventures and ingredients throughout this book. Recipes include a wide variety of Michigan-grown ingredients.

Tasty Trio Pasta Box by Al Dente Pasta – Whitmore Lake www.aldentepasta.com
Whether your loved one is a seasoned chef, hard-working parent, or struggling college student, Al Dente Pasta Company has a tasty gift option. Consider this great, affordable kit that contains 1 bag of Fiesta Fettuccine, 1 bag of Egg Fettuccine, and 1 jar of Monique's Rustic Roasted Garlic Sauce.

Entertainment

Entertainment Cards from MJR Theatres – Oak Park www.mjrtheatres.com

Movie gift cards make a fantastic, affordable gift for all ages, and supporting local theaters keeps more money inside the state. MJR has multiple locations around the state and gift card amounts range from \$10-\$100, or select another independently-owned theater near you.

Live Theater Tickets at The Purple Rose Theater – Chelsea www.purplerosetheater.org

Gift certificates are always in season at Jeff Daniels' famous gem, The Purple Rose. They are available in several denominations and valid for one theatre season (September through August). This special theater company highlights Michigan actors and playwrights.

Custom Tours by Inside Detroit – Detroit www.insidedetroit.org

Surprise friends and family in the Detroit area with a spectacular outing customized by Inside Detroit. Whether your interest is history, architecture, world-class cuisine, or bar-hopping they've got the inside track and will customize a plan just for you.

Family Fun

Amusement Park Passes by Michigan's Adventure – Muskegon www.miadventure.com

How about giving the promise of summer fun to come? Admission passes for ages 3 and older may be purchased online. Single Day Passes are valid any operating day during the 2009 season. Season Pass vouchers provide admission to Michigan's Adventure & WildWater Adventure throughout the season. Discounts on season passes are available when purchasing four or more.

Family Membership to The Henry Ford – Dearborn www.thehenryford.org

This gift will keep giving fun, education, and value year-round. Benefits include unlimited admission to Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, discounts on IMAX® movies and the Ford Rouge Factory Tour, and free parking. A family pass includes two named adult members and their children or grandchildren, 18 years and younger.

Zoological Society Membership at Detroit Zoo – Royal Oak www.detroitzoo.org

Make the animals accessible to those you love with a gift that keeps on giving like an annual membership to the world-renowned Detroit Zoo. Why buy a toy animal for the child on your list when you can "adopt" an animal, have breakfast with the butterflies, or leave your mark of support in a number of ways for the Detroit Zoo? If the Detroit Zoo is too far, consider a similar option in your neighborhood.

Gardening

Giftus certificii by Oikos Tree Crops – Kalamazoo www.oikostreecrops.com

This, of course is horticulture-speak for gift certificates. Any denomination is available in \$1.00 increments and your favorite gardening fiend will conveniently receive the latest catalog along with the gift certificate.

Friendship Bell by Harmony Hollow Bell Works – Ann Arbor www.harmonyhollow.com

This bell features an upraised hand as a symbol of peace and friendship. It's hand-made from brass and comes with a tag that contains an inspirational message of friendship.

The Michigan Gardening Guide by Jerry Minnich – U of M Press, Ann Arbor

This is a serious guide for serious gardeners. It may be especially helpful to northerners, as it specifically tackles unique Michigan conditions like unpredictable weather and sandy soil.

Gift Baskets

Berry Essentials by The Blueberry Store – South Haven www.theblueberrystore.com

Affordable and berry-licious, this basket showcases three must have items for blueberry lovers. It contains Blueberry 10oz Preserves, Blueberry Honey 6.5oz, and Mini Triple Berry Preserves in a shrink-wrapped basket with a beautiful blue bow.

Breakfast Basket by Your Michigan Connection – Northville www.yourmiconn.com

This bucket of flavors is just right for a cottage stay or a lazy weekend at home. It features a package of pancake mix, one jug of Michigan maple syrup, 8 oz of dried cherries, Mountain Country coffee, a “Save the Lighthouses” towel and a Michigan mug, all sweetly nestled in an apple basket.

Tastes of Michigan by Gift Baskets from MI – White Pigeon www.giftbasketsfrommichigan.com

Send the flavors of home to former Michiganders with this collection of chocolate caramel popcorn, blueberry preserves, Sanders hot fudge sauce, cherry wafer crackers, dried cherries, chocolate covered raisins, cherry sour gum drops, and Fireside instant coffee, all tucked in a homemade Michigan crate.

Jams & Fruit Butters

Pear & Cinnamon Preserves by Brownwood Farms – Williamsburg www.brownwoodfarms.com

Diced pears in a light cinnamon sauce makes this delicate preserve a special treat. Give it on its own, or combine it with other unique products from this company like Cherry Chutney or Apple Riesling Salsa.

Jam Party by Cherry Republic – Glen Arbor www.cherryrepublic.com

This sweet box of fun contains Cherry Almond, Cherry Berry Jam, Cherry Pepper Jelly, Cherry Wine Jelly, 2 boxes of Republic Wafers and a 17 oz. jar of their best-seller, Cherry Jam.

JR’s Favorite Fruit Butters by American Spoon – Petoskey www.spoon.com

A handsome selection of the founder’s favorite fruit butters are all nestled together in a decorative American Spoon gift box. The collection features 9 oz. jars of Strawberry Butter, Mango Butter, and Leelanau Peninsula Apricot Butter as well as 8 oz. of Naturally Sweet Apple Butter.



Java Junkies

12 Oz Bearclaw Bag by Bearclaw Coffee Co. – Chelsea www.bearclawcoffee.com

This high quality gourmet coffee is selected, blended, roasted and packaged exclusively for the Bearclaw Coffee Company. Select between whole bean or freshly ground, regular or decaf, and house blend or something truly unique like Toasted Southern Pecan or Vienna Cinnamon.

Café Carmel at Home by Coffee Beanery – Flushing www.coffeebeanery.com

This is a perfect choice for those who prefer enjoying their coffee more as a decadent dessert. This at-home kit for one of the company's most popular drinks includes Beanery Blend® coffee and Sanders Caramel Sauce along with two glasses. As a bonus, it also comes with Café Carmel® Cream coffee.

Gift Card from Great Lakes Chocolate & Coffee Co. – Sturgis www.greatlakeschocolate.com

Can't decide if your loved one is more into coffee or chocolate, why not let them choose? These gift cards are available in any amount over \$10 and can be redeemed at a retail location or online.

Magazine Subscriptions

Ambassador – Birmingham www.ambassadormag.com

Ambassador magazine is published six times a year. With engaging, vibrant images and edgy, in-depth editorials, Ambassador chronicles the lifestyles of powerbrokers, mega-celebrities and founding families from the Metro Detroit area, the country and around the world.

Car and Driver – Ann Arbor www.caranddriver.com

Show your favorite auto enthusiasts how much you care by treating them to a year of Car and Driver. The magazine is published twelve times a year and subscriptions are available for both print and digital versions.

Michigan Blue – Grand Rapids www.mibluemag.com

Ideal for those who live along the water or love to visit, this publication showcases homes, products, pastimes, seasons, and sentiments of lakefront living. It's a bi-monthly magazine.

Music

Grandfather's Hat by Jeff Daniels – Boomadeeboom Records, Lansing www.JeffDaniels.com

Michigan's beloved native son, Jeff Daniels, has put on his singer/songwriter hat again to benefit his Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea. The songs are entertaining and locally spun. Go directly to Daniels' website for discounts on purchases that include previously released CDs.

This Christmas by Aretha Franklin Exclusively at Borders – Ann Arbor www.borders.com

The Queen of Soul, at long last has released a Christmas album. This soulful twist on the season is not from a Michigan recording label, but it is available only through Michigan-based Borders.

Solid Body Guitar by Heritage Guitars – Kalamazoo www.heritageguitar.com

Kalamazoo was once home to Gibson Guitars. When that company moved down to Nashville, some of the talented craftsmen it left behind, joined together and continued the tradition of making quality instruments. The result is a great selection of guitars made here in Michigan.

Grit, Noise and Revolution by David A. Carson – University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor
Subtitled “The Birth of Detroit Rock ‘N’ Roll” this book tells the story of groundbreaking Detroit rock artists like Iggy Pop, Mitch Ryder, Bob Seger, and Ted Nugent. It’s an indispensable guide for rock aficionados and future legends.

Ornaments

Snowflake Ornament by Two Bees Candles – Northville www.twobeescandles.com

Hand-crafted, these delicate ornaments are made of Great Lakes area beeswax. The company also makes a variety of other ornaments and holiday candles that evoke simpler times.

Holiday Ornament by Pewabic Pottery – Detroit www.pewabicstore.org

If you’re looking for something artistic and uniquely Michigan, you cannot go wrong with a treasure from Pewabic Pottery. Ornaments make classic keepsakes, or for someone really special, consider a beautifully glazed vase or bowl.

Outdoors & Sports

Motorcycling Across Michigan by William Murphy – Arbutus Press, Traverse City

Author Murphy's passion for biking and love of the state are evident throughout the book. He provides 27 tours with maps for a unique guide to experiencing Michigan.

Michigan Out of Doors – Lansing www.mucc.org

Michigan Out-of-Doors is the official magazine publication of Michigan United Conservation Clubs. Published eleven times a year, it provides readers with great information on Michigan’s wilderness opportunities and experiences.

Boyne Gift Card by Boyne Resorts – Boyne Falls www.boyne.com

This is a great gift for golfers, boarders, and skiers. Denominations begin at \$25 and the card can be used at a variety of Boyne locations including Boyne Mountain, Boyne Highlands, Avalanche Bay Indoor Waterpark, Boyne Golf and a variety of Boyne Country Sports stores around the state.

Original Cap by Stormy Kromer – Ironwood www.stormykromer.com

As seen on our cover, these legendary caps are composed of six panels of pre-shrunk, recycled wool for exceptional comfort, combined with a patented ear band system and tough-as-nails brim. Northern Michiganders have long relied on their warmth and comfort to survive frigid winters.

Swedish Pimple Fishing Lures by Bay de Noc Lure Company - Gladstone www.swedishpimple.com

This type of lure has been widely used in Sweden for over 100 years, hence the name. It’s a great choice for both fresh and salt-water fishing, and for winter or summer. These lures have a proven ability to take walleye, trout, Coho salmon, northern, bass, pan fish and many salt water species.

Hiking Boots by Wolverine – Rockford www.wolverine.com

For over 120 years, Wolverine has been making boots and shoes of remarkable durability and comfort. They have an extensive line of hiking boots for both men and women. If you’re not sure the size or style that will fit your recipient’s needs, gift cards are also available.

Outerwear by Carhartt – Dearborn www.carhartt.com

If someone on your list needs a warm winter coat this year, you can't go wrong with a selection from Carhartt. Their collection is extensive and includes products for men, women and children. Visit the website to view the collection, order products, or find the nearest retailer to you.

Meats

Coney Kit by American Coney Island – Detroit www.americanconeyisland.com

For those who grew up on that great Detroit tradition, the coney dog, American Coney Island offers a coney kit. Hotdogs and chili are frozen, packed with dry ice, and shipped anywhere in the U.S. Each kit contains 12 Dearborn Sausage hotdogs, buns, a sweet onion, their famous Detroit chili sauce, instructions, and two hats.

Highland Smoked Salmon by Durham's Tracklements – Ann Arbor www.tracklements.com

Their farm raised salmon are selected at the optimal size, and flown in fresh weekly from the cold waters of the Bay of Fundy. Inspired by a stay in Scotland, the Highland selection is a genuine hand-rubbed dry cure of salt with a bit of brown sugar, lightly smoked over a blend of select hardwoods. The result is a mellow fresh flavor with moist, firm yet buttery texture.

Wild Game Gift Box by Country Smokehouse – Almont www.countrysmokehouseinc.com

Choose from pre-packaged gift boxes of elk, venison, and buffalo or wild game sausage and jerky. You can even work with their team to customize a collection that fits your budget and palette.

Sweet Treats

Fruits and Nuts Assortment by Morley – Clinton Township www.morleycandy.com

This combination of cherry cordials, fruit cream centers, and premium assorted nuts all covered in Morley milk chocolate is a Michigan classic. Bring a box to a party or send them to a friend.

Truffles by The Chocolate Garden – Coloma www.chocolategarden.com

When truffles are all you do, then you must do them well, and so they do. Nestled in the heart of western Michigan wine country, this shop creates extraordinarily creamy little morsels that will amaze and delight any chocoholic. The decorative gift boxes even include a card filled with chocolate lore.

Harmony of Pretzels by Great American Pretzel Co. – Howell www.greatamericanpretzel.com

A tall cylinder holds this decadent collection of a dozen hand-dipped chocolate covered pretzel rods. This assortment includes: 2 milk chocolate rods with a caramel swirl and white drizzle, 2 milk chocolate coated with toffee and drizzled with dark chocolate, 2 milk chocolate covered with candy coated chocolate pieces, 2 milk chocolate coated with nonpareils, 2 white chocolate with crispy, caramel crunch center with red drizzle, and 2 white chocolate coated with red sprinkles.

Ice Cream Parlor Basket by Sanders – Clinton Township www.sanderscandy.com

Native Detroiters will likely salivate at the very thought of recreating a Sanders Ice Cream Parlor experience in their own homes. The basket includes a Sanders ice cream scoop and 4 delicious toppings, including the award-winning *Milk Chocolate Hot Fudge*.

Three Slice Box by Mackinac Fudge Shop – St Ignace www.mackinacfudgeshop.com
Mix and match classic flavors of Mackinac Island Fudge in this three slice box. Choose from chocolate, chocolate peanut butter, chocolate pecan, chocolate walnut, peanut butter, peanut butter pecan, vanilla, vanilla pecan, maple, or maple pecan. Each slice is approximately 1/2 lb.

Wine & Spirits

Fizz by L. Mawby Vineyards – Suttons Bay

The holiday season is the perfect excuse for bringing a bottle of bubbly, so why not try a Michigan sparkler? This one is a soft, fun blend of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay grapes that makes a sparkling sensation. L. Mawby also features a variety of other cork-popping treats.

Madonna Wine by Ciccone Vineyards – Suttons Bay www.cicconevineyards.com

For that combination of wine enthusiast and pop music lover, consider a bottle from this unique collection. In 2005 Madonna and her father Silvio, owner and vintner of Ciccone Vineyards, collaborated to commemorate her 11th studio album *Confessions on a Dance Floor*. The original artwork from her album was used to create labels that also contain a limited edition number and a facsimile of both Ciccones' signatures. The wine is of course the creative work of Mr. Ciccone, who chose his five favorite grapes to make five amazing wines.

Catherman's Port by St. Julian – Paw Paw www.stjulian.com

If you're looking for a unique bottle to bring or share, consider a dessert wine like this port, brought to you by Michigan's oldest and largest winery, St. Julian's. With currant, caramel, and chocolaty aromas this sweet and elegant vintage brings joy to all the senses. It's especially delightful when served in chocolate cups.



Michigan-based Retail Chains

Michigan has a number of outstanding independently-owned retailers...so many in fact that we could not list them all here. We encourage you to shop with them frequently. Because it is sometimes assumed that chains are not local however, we have included a list of Michigan-based retailers with multiple locations to help you identify some home grown shopping opportunities.

Appliances

ABC Warehouse
Walter's Home Appliance

Auto Parts

Belle Tire
Glendale Auto Supply
Murray's Discount Auto Stores

Books

Borders
Little Professor Book Centers
Waldenbooks (part of Borders)

Furniture

Art Van
Gardner White
Gorman's
Jimmy's Rustics
LA-Z-Boy Furniture Galleries
Mattress & Futon Shoppe

Gourmet

American Spoon

Hardware & Garden

ACO Hardware
English Gardens
Gillroy's Hardware
Godwin Hardware

Jewelers

Medawar Jewelers
Orin Jewelers
Tappers

Markets

Busch's
D&W Fresh Markets
Family Fare Supermarkets
Felpausch
Glen's
Harding's Friendly Markets
Hiller's Markets
L&L Food Centers
Meijer
Nino Salvaggio
Quality Dairy
Spartan Stores
VG's Food & Pharmacy
Westborn Markets

Musical Instruments

Anderson Music Co.
Marshall Music Co.

Pets

Pet Supplies Plus

Sporting Goods

Boyne Country Sports
Carl's Golfland
D&D Bicycle and Fitness
Dunham's Sporting Goods
MC Sports
Moosejaw
Perani's Hockey World
Running Fit
Summit Sports
Total Runner

Women's Wear

Lover's Lane