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## Map of thumb area of michigan

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The Thumb is a peninsula region within Michigan, characterized as being geographically and economically distinct from the rest of the state. Situated in Central Michigan, east of Flint, and north of Metro Detroit, this area comprises counties such as Huron, Tuscola, and Sanilac. Its landscape is predominantly flat with fertile soil, making it suitable for agriculture. Major crops grown here include sugar beets, navy beans, corn, fruits, and fish from nearby lakes. The region's proximity to major automotive centers in Detroit and Flint has led to a significant presence of manufacturing industries. Companies such as Intertape Polymer Group, Cargill Salt, Cooperative Elevator Company, and Dow AgroSciences have operations within the Thumb. Notable businesses also include SMR Automotive and P.J. Wallbank Spring, with facilities in Port Huron and Marysville. The Thumb region in Michigan has a rich industrial history with companies like Domtar, Dunn Paper, Kehin Michigan Manufacturing, Champion, Sensient Technologies Corporation, Star of the West Milling Co., Huron Castings, Pigeon Telephone Co, Agri-Valley Services, and Thumb Cellular operating within its boundaries. These businesses contribute to the local economy alongside agricultural activities and tourism. The region benefits from strategic locations along Lake Huron, Saginaw Bay, and the St. Clair River, making it a popular destination for seasonal tourists in towns like Bay Port, Caseville, Harbor Beach, and others. The area's unique features include the Tip of The Thumb Heritage Water Trail and the presence of various water bodies that support fishing and other marine activities. In addition to its industrial and economic aspects, the Thumb region also has cultural significance with notable places such as Algonac, known as the Venice of Michigan due to its canals, Bad Axe named after a historical find, and Harbor Beach hosting the largest man-made harbor. The presence of companies in the area attracts workers from nearby cities like Metro Detroit, Flint, and the Tri-Cities. The Thumb Area of Michigan boasts a rich history, unique attractions, and breathtaking natural beauty. The Wind and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative's Harvest II is nearing completion in December 2012. The region encompasses various notable sites, including the Huron County Nature Center, which features a 120-acre wilderness arboretum, and Kernan Memorial Nature Sanctuary, a 45-acre refuge with 4,000 feet of shoreline on Lake Huron. Kinde, once the "bean capital of the world," is home to the Cooperative Elevator Company, one of the largest grain elevators in the state. Port Huron serves as the maritime capital of the Great Lakes, where Lake Huron flows into the St. Clair River, making it the largest city in the Thumb area. The Sanilac Petroglyphs, discovered after massive fires swept the Lower Peninsula in 1881, provide a glimpse into the lives of an ancient woodland people who occupied Michigan's Thumb area. Sebewaing is renowned as the sugar beet capital of the world and hosts one of the four Michigan Sugar Company factories in the region. St. Clair boasts the world's largest boardwalk along freshwater, the St. Clair River, while Turnip Rock, located at the northern tip of the Thumb, features an unusual undercut sea stack. The Michigan Underwater Preserves protect areas of the Great Lakes on Michigan's coast and include nineteen major shipwrecks in the Thumb Area Bottomland Preserve and the Sanilac Shores Underwater Preserve. Tourists often visit Caseville for its annual Cheeseburger in Caseville festival, a hometown celebration inspired by Jimmy Buffett's song "Cheeseburger in Paradise." The scenic Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay shoreline can be traveled via M-25 (formerly US Highway 25 until 1973), which starts at the end of I-69/I-94 in Port Huron and ends in Bay City. Five lighthouses are located along Lake Huron, where M-25 passes: Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, Port Sanilac lighthouse, Pointe aux Barques Lighthouse, Harbor Beach Light, and the Port Austin Lighthouse. The Lake Huron Circle Tour is a designated scenic road system connecting all of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River, with many visitors choosing to begin their journey in Port Huron. Huron County, located at the tip of Michigan's Thumb region, boasts an impressive 90 miles of shoreline along Saginaw Bay and Lake Huron. The county's economy thrives on agriculture, producing a significant portion of the world's navy beans. Additionally, tourism plays a crucial role, with charming towns like Sebewaing, Caseville, Port Austin, Port Hope, and Harbor Beach attracting visitors from across the state. The region hosts various festivals throughout the year, including: \* Bay Port Fish Sandwich Festival \* Blue Water Ramble \* Boat Night & Port Huron to Mackinac Boat Race \* Cheeseburger in Caseville Festival \* Croswell Agricultural Society Fair \* Feast of the Sainte Claire \* Harbor Beach Maritime Festival \* Huron County Fair \* Michigan Bean Festival \* Michigan Sugar Festival \* Port Huron Float Down \* Thumbfest \* Yale Bologna Festival Huron County is also home to several state and roadside parks, including Sleeper State Park, Port Crescent State Park, Jenks Park, Brown Park, White Rock Park, as well as nine county parks along the shoreline. The county seat, Bad Axe, is situated in the center of the region. Lapeer County's economy is distinct due to its proximity to Flint and Detroit, making manufacturing a significant factor. In contrast, agriculture plays a lesser role compared to other counties in the region. While farming still exists, most operations are small-scale and supply local markets. Geographically, Lapeer County stands out with its rolling hills and inland lakes, unlike its flatter neighbors bordering Lake Huron or Lake St. Clair. Sanilac County boasts the largest land area in the Thumb and Lower Peninsula, featuring fertile and flat terrain suitable for crop cultivation. Tourist attractions like Lexington and Port Sanilac draw visitors from Detroit. Sandusky is the county seat and largest city. St. Clair County has the highest population in the Thumb, with a significant portion considered part of the Metro Detroit MSA. Residents travel to Port Huron for shopping and work. Its eastern border is the St. Clair River, separating Michigan from Ontario. The county's economy is dominated by agriculture and manufacturing. Tuscola County relies heavily on agriculture, with industries like sugar refining, ethanol processing, and grain production driving its economy. Caro, the county seat, is named after Cairo, Egypt. Tuscola County has a relatively short shoreline along Saginaw Bay, making tourism less significant. Its economy is tied to surrounding regions and cities. The boundaries of the Thumb are debated, with most definitions including Huron, Sanilac, and Tuscola counties as the tri-county region. Disputed areas include St. Clair County's southern portion, which is classified as part of Metro Detroit. The Blue Water Area term may also apply to St. Clair County. The Blue Water Area, which includes Michigan's Thumb region, is characterized by its extensive shoreline along Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay. The area gets its name from its borders, with the St. Clair River on the east connecting Lake Huron to Lake St. Clair, while the Detroit River lies below. The Blue Water Bridge, a notable landmark, spans the St. Clair River between Port Huron and Sarnia, Ontario. Historic roots run deep just north of Holloway Reservoir, where early mapmakers such as Orange Risdon marked an expansive, yet largely unsurveyed, Sanilac County. This region's transformation was a gradual one, with European Americans displacing Native American tribes from the late 18th century onwards. The French were the first Europeans to set foot here, introducing their culture and engaging in fur trading and lumber industries. Following the British victory in the French and Indian War, they took control of this former French territory, sending settlers into the area to establish dominance over the Great Lakes. By 1783, the Thumb was officially under US control following the American Revolution and Treaty of Paris. The British continued to exert influence until after the War of 1812, when the northern border was solidified, placing this region firmly under US jurisdiction. As a result, settlers migrated from New York and New England into Ohio and Michigan, primarily of English and Scots-Irish descent. Later immigrants included Polish and German groups who came through Detroit, shaping local customs and accents. Early interactions between Europeans and Native Americans involved trading with the Fox and Sauk tribes, while transient groups like the Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Kickapoo may have also been present. The displacement of native peoples was a broader phenomenon across North America during this period. The Port Huron area is one of Michigan's oldest European settlements, established by French colonists. Forts like Gratiot and Sinclair were built along the St. Clair River during colonial times. The naming of Bad Axe in 1861 commemorated Captain Rudolph Paps's discovery of an old axe while clearing land for the Huron County seat. The Thumb region also witnessed a devastating fire on September 5, 1881, which burned large expanses and had lasting impacts on the area's development. Port Huron's history is marked by significant events that have shaped its development. In the late 19th century, the area experienced devastating natural disasters such as the Port Huron Fire of 1871 and the Great Lakes Storm of 1913. These calamities led to ecological damage, logging techniques, and droughts that affected the region's landscape. The city has been home to notable individuals, including Robert Teet, a wrestler and author; Brewster H. Shaw, a retired United States Air Force colonel and NASA astronaut; Gabriel Rheäume, a writer; Frank Murphy, a Detroit mayor, Michigan governor, U.S. Attorney General, and Justice of the United States Supreme Court; Marguerite de Angeli, a children's book author and Newbery Award winner; Danelle Gay, Miss Michigan USA 2006; Terry Knight, a singer, DJ, manager, and founder of Grand Funk Railroad; Jake Long, an offensive lineman for the Miami Dolphins; Terry Nichols, an accomplice in the Oklahoma City bombing; Jim Slater, a hockey player with the Atlanta Thrashers; Thomas Edison, an inventor and entrepreneur who settled in Port Huron from 1854 to 1863; and Obadiah Gardner, a U.S. Senator from Maine. Port Huron is also home to various local politicians, including Lisa McClain, Dan Kildee, Pamela Hornberger, Gary Elsen, Gary Howell, Andrew Beeler, Phil Green, and Dan Lauwers. Educationally, the city has institutions such as St Clair County Community College, Baker College, University of Michigan-Flint, Saginaw Valley State University, and Delta College. Additionally, it features several museums including Frank Murphy Memorial Museum and home, Grice House Museum, Marysville Historical Museum, Wills Ste. Claire Auto Museum, Huron Light Ship Museum, Port Huron Museum, and Carnegie Center. Port Huron is home to several museums, including the Port Huron Thomas Edison Depot Museum and the Sanilac County Historical Museum. The area also features historic sites such as the USCGC Bramble, Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, and Pointe aux Barques Lighthouse near Port Hope. The Thumb Area Radio Region serves the region, with local stations influenced by Detroit Radio Market and the Flint Market. Newspapers serving the area include the Huron Daily Tribune, The Times Herald, Bay City Times, Saginaw News, and many others. TV stations broadcasting from the area include WDCQ-TV, Fox 66 WEYI-TV, NBC / CW 25 WJRT-TV, ABC 12 WNEM-TV, CBS / MyTV 5, and PBS station licensed to Bad Axe. The Detroit Television Market covers the Lapeer County, St. Clair County, and Sanilac County area. Highways passing through Port Huron include I-69 and I-94, with M-15, M-19, M-24, M-25 forming a scenic route along the Lake Huron/Saginaw Bay shoreline. The Thumb, a region in Michigan, is accessible via the M-53 (Van Dyke Road) highway from Port Sanilac on Lake Huron to Muskegon on Lake Michigan. This route spans the eastern part of the Lower Peninsula and plays a crucial role in transporting goods and connecting resorts on Saginaw Bay and Lake Huron. The region has several transportation hubs, including Amtrak stations in Lapeer, Port Huron, and Flint, as well as local railroads operated by Grand Trunk Western Railroad, CSX Transportation, Canadian National Railway, and Huron and Eastern Railway. Major railroad centers are Vassar, Bad Axe, and Port Huron. Air travel options are available through St. Clair County International Airport, Caro Municipal Airport, and Flint Bishop International Airport, although none of these airports are located in the Thumb itself. The area is covered by two area codes: 989 for the eastern half and 810 for the western half. The region has a diverse geography and economy, with cities like Port Huron, Caseville, and Cass City serving as major centers. The Thumb also features several notable attractions, including beaches, lakes, and rural landscapes. The Thumb region in Michigan has a rich history of industrial development, with companies like Motiberson Sumi Systems and IAC Group playing significant roles. However, some facilities have closed in recent years, such as the Domtar Port Huron mill and the Capac manufacturing facility. Despite this, the area remains an important hub for industry and tourism. The International Trade Corridor connects the region to major cities like Detroit and Chicago, making it a vital transportation route. Visitors can explore the Thumb's natural beauty through the Tip of The Thumb Heritage Water Trail or the Huron Nature Center. The region is also home to several festivals and events, such as the Blue Water Ramble/Clinton River Riders, the Port Huron to Mackinaw Island Sailboat Race, and the Cheeseburger in Caseville festival. These celebrations showcase the area's unique culture and charm. Historic sites like the Bad Axe Historical Society and the Harbor Beach Woman's Club offer a glimpse into the Thumb's past. The region is also home to several newspapers, including the Huron Daily Tribune, The Times Herald, and the Tuscola County Advertiser. In addition to its industrial and tourist attractions, the Thumb region has a strong sense of community. The area is served by two airports, MBS International Airport and Flint Bishop International Airport, making it easily accessible for visitors and locals alike. The enigmatic Thumb of Michigan - a region often overlooked yet rich in history and hidden treasures. From the Great Fire of 1881 to ancient petroglyphs, this article delves into the stories and maps that bring the Thumb's secrets to light. \*\*Unforgettable Road Trips and Nautical Delights\*\* The power of a well-designed map cannot be overstated. For Sarah, it was the \*\*Thumb Michigan Regional Map\*\* that led her to discover new places and enjoy an unforgettable road trip. John, who gets lost easily, found the same map to be a lifesaver, making his travels stress-free. For Emily, the map was a game-changer on their family vacation, allowing them to plan ahead and explore without confusion or detours. The kids even enjoyed tracking their progress on the map! On a different note, \*\*Lake Huron and Michigan Thumb Maritime Chart Saginaw Bay Nautical Map (1984) Throw Pillow\*\* has won over fans like you, with its unique design and high-quality construction. As a boating enthusiast, this throw pillow is the perfect addition to any living room. The \*\*Thumb Michigan Regional Map by GM Johnson (2012-05-02)\*\* has also received rave reviews from travelers who appreciate its detail and ease of use. Whether you're directionally challenged or just looking for a fun road trip experience, this map has got your back! Last but not least, the \*\*Michigan Thumb Regional Fold Maps\*\* have become trusted companions on many an adventure. With their clear folding lines and detailed maps, these foldable wonders have saved travelers from getting lost in the winding roads of Michigan. I'm thrilled to share my experience with Michigan Thumb Regional fold maps! As someone who's always up for an adventure, I was stoked to find these maps easy to navigate and packed with vibrant colors and cute illustrations. Plus, they're perfect for storing in my glove compartment. Thanks to Michigan Thumb Regional for creating a game-changing product that makes traveling even more enjoyable! Not only are these maps super useful, but they also make great souvenirs - I love collecting them from all the different states I visit. They add a unique touch to my travel wall at home. Keep up the fantastic work! When searching for a map of Michigan's Thumb, consider the scale: smaller scales provide an overview, while larger scales offer detailed information. Look for maps that include points of interest like parks, landmarks, and attractions to plan your trip. A durable map can withstand wear and tear, so opt for ones made from laminated paper or waterproof materials. You can find maps at local bookstores and gas stations, but online options are also available. The Mackinac State Historic Parks Online Store offers maps specifically designed for Michigan's Thumb, while the Pure Michigan Store features various maps of different regions. National Geographic Maps Online Store provides topographic maps with detailed terrain information. The price range for Michigan's Thumb maps varies depending on quality and detail, from \$10 to \$50 or more. By considering key features and budget, you can find the perfect map to enhance your travel experience in this beautiful region.