

VISITORS GUIDE

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS
& THE TWIN CITIES

ACTIVITY GUIDE
FOR ALL AGES

FEATURES:
LOCAL SCENE

RESTAURANT
& DINING GUIDE

TWIN CITIES
EVENTS



WWW.VISITIGH.COM



welcome INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

We're glad you're here.

Early history shows that this area was once part of an expansive territory of the Dakota tribe of American Indians. In 1852, immigrants of Irish and German descent settled on the rolling green hills on the west bank of the Mississippi River and founded what is now Inver Grove Heights. From small beginnings, we have grown to a city of almost 36,000 that residents often refer to as IGH.

If you plan to enjoy one of the many outdoor recreational opportunities available in IGH, whether it's fishing in one of our 27 parks, golfing on our stunning city-owned course, or biking the Mississippi River Regional Trail, you might be surprised to find that IGH is also a transportation hub just 10 minutes from downtown St. Paul, 15 minutes from the MSP airport and Mall of America, and 20 minutes from downtown Minneapolis. And right here in IGH, we offer ample hotel rooms and meeting spaces, an indoor waterpark, private boat landings, a new dog park and popular restaurants and delis that have been family-owned for generations.

Maybe you're visiting us for a conference at IGH-based Fortune 100 company CHS, or a tournament at Rich Valley Athletic Complex, or to shop at Gertens Garden Center. Whatever the reason, please feel welcome here. Of all the things that Inver Grove Heights has to offer, the best thing about our community is the people who live and work here. On their behalf, I hope you enjoy discovering IGH!

Sincerely,

Tom Bartholomew, Mayor
City of Inver Grove Heights





insider tip

Attending a concert or sporting event in Saint Paul or Minneapolis? Book your hotel in nearby Inver Grove Heights and save money!

enjoy YOUR STAY

There are endless hotel options to consider when booking your Twin Cities travel.

What makes Inver Grove Heights unique is the ideal location, easy highway access, and the best value for your hotel stay—quality and price—in the metro area.

Enjoy your stay in our friendly, safe community! Inver Grove Heights hotels are conveniently located three miles from the city's Veterans Memorial Community Center and sports complexes and less than 10 minutes from the Mall of America®, downtown Saint Paul and MSP International Airport. For smaller charter flights, the region is home to Fleming Field municipal airport in South St. Paul.

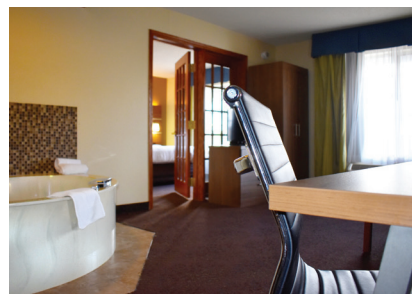


The AmericInn Hotel features newly renovated guest rooms with AmericInn SoundGuard for a quiet night's sleep. There are a variety of room types including suites with whirlpools, as well as amenities such as complimentary breakfast, indoor pool, and shuttle. Park and fly rates available.



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BY WYNDHAM**
651.450.7511
888.881.7829

5861 Blaine Ave E
Inver Grove Heights,
MN 55076



AN IHG® HOTEL

**HOLIDAY INN
EXPRESS**

651.450.1100
800.315.2621

5653 Bishop Ave
Inver Grove Heights,
MN 55076

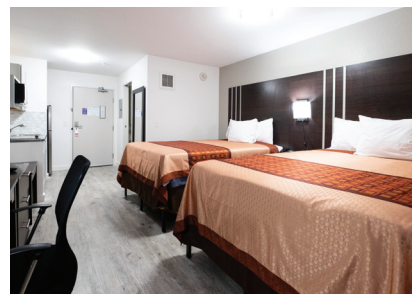


**MICROTEL INN
& SUITES**
651.552.0555
888.771.7171

5681 Bishop Ave
Inver Grove Heights,
MN 55076



Where customer service is what we do every day. Each hotel room features queen beds in all room types—single room, room with two beds, and suites. All rooms are equipped with a mini-fridge, microwave, coffee maker, and free wi-fi. A free hot breakfast is also included in your stay.



The Coratel Inn & Suites offers newly designed, spacious suite rooms with modern décor and amenities; kitchenette, refrigerator, 55" LED smart TVs, and a free continental breakfast. Extended stay rates also available.



**CORATEL
INN & SUITES**
651.414.9893

5492 Robert Trail
Inver Grove Heights,
MN 55077

the local SCENE



meet LAVELLE E. NEAL

47 days. That's how long LaVelle E. Neal, *Star Tribune* sports columnist, spends at Minnesota Twins spring training in Fort Myers each year. It's no wonder that proximity to Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) Airport was a major reason why Neal chose to reside in the southern Twin Cities metro—covering a professional baseball team for over 20 years requires a lot of travel.

When he's not on the road, Neal enjoys dining at Inver Grove Heights restaurants such as B-52 Burgers and Brew. He recommends the Truffle Shuffle burger, which combines minced mushrooms, onions sautéed in garlic, black truffle oil, sun-dried tomato, smoked gouda, chopped bacon, and a 7-spice mayo.

Jersey's is another favorite spot, thanks to the line-up of great live music. Jersey's is also known for their burgers: both Jersey's and B-52 have claimed the "Best Burger" at the Twin Cities Burger Battle over the last five years. In addition to the great menu options, Neal enjoys interacting with the friendly owners and staff.



"It's always great to have a local spot to grab a burger or beverage, but I've gotten the bonus. I've been able to develop long-lasting friendships with the owners and the staff from a couple of the local restaurants in town. It speaks to the quality of individuals who work in this area," says Neal.

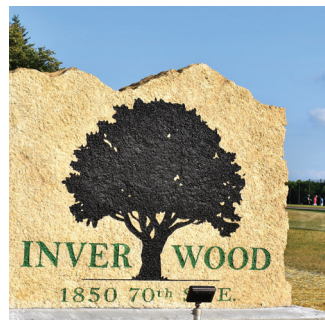
More favorites are Inver Grove Brewery and other shops in the Arbor Pointe district, which is located off of Highway 52 and Concord Boulevard in Inver Grove Heights. He also enjoys playing bingo at local establishments with his brother. During one memorable game at the Bierstube, Neal laughed in astonishment when his name was called for winning the meat raffle—even though he didn't enter the drawing!

insider tip

Neal recommends Overboard Bar & Grill and Mississippi Pub as quaint restaurants overlooking the Mississippi River. They're beloved by locals as a couple of hidden gems.



Growing up in Chicago, followed by a move to Kansas City, and countless work trips to other cities, he boasts about the Twin Cities metro as a great sports market which has all the professional teams, top-tier facilities, and local fan support. He's certainly an expert: he's worked as a beat writer for the Twins for the past 20 years.



In addition to baseball, Neal currently covers a wide variety of amateur and professional sports. One recent story featured Simley High School golfer Isabella McCauley, who qualified for the 2021 U.S. Women's Open. While interviewing McCauley at Inver Wood Golf Course in Inver Grove Heights, Neal observed her quick-thinking golf exercise in which she teed up five golf balls

and succinctly delivered a perfect swing and straight drive on all five—a 'wow'-type moment!

As he grows into his new role as sports journalist, LaVelle E. Neal looks forward to diving deeper into the human element of a story and getting to know the person, not just the player.

Neal adds, "Everyone has an interesting story. Some are easier to uncover than others. And there are common denominators between my subjects and readers that help humanize the people I'm interviewing. It could be humor. It could be that my subject's parents were school teachers. It could be that they each lunch once a week at B-52. It could be that they like to fish or own a motorcycle. You never know."

After all, it's the people that make the story worth telling.

mighty MISSISSIPPI

Inver Grove Heights is ideal for connecting with the Mississippi River to admire the river's natural beauty or for recreation. For boaters, there are multiple marinas that offer day launch passes, transient dockage and a gas dock as well as season-long slip rentals.

Also popular on the Mississippi River in Inver Grove Heights are fishing, canoeing and kayaking, and birdwatching activities. Overall, the area is included in a large 72-mile park known as the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area that promotes river activities, places to explore along the river, and history and culture, while maintaining nature preservation. Come, enjoy the outdoors on the Mississippi River!



Photo Credit: Steve Cronin

RIVERSIDE DINING

Whether you're engaging in outdoor recreation on the river or just looking for a bite to eat nearby, look no further than Mississippi Pub and Overboard Bar & Grill. Both are next to the river, offering easy access and restaurant patios overlooking the water.



mississippi RIVER TRAIL

Biking has never been more popular. If you're a biking enthusiast, you're going to love the Mississippi River Trail.

The much-anticipated Mississippi River Trail is paved and perfect for bicycling, hiking, inline skating, and on-leash dog walking. Trailhead facilities at Swing Bridge Park and Pine Bend Bluffs offer restrooms, bike fix-it stations, and a picnic shelter. The regional greenway trail extends 27 miles from Saint Paul, through Inver Grove Heights, to Hastings.



Attention mountain bike enthusiasts, set your sights on Harmon Park Reserve, which is a single-track 4.4 mile loop with a 237 foot ascent. The surrounding park features rolling hills, a small pond, and wetlands. Much of the park is reclaimed farmland that is now natural prairie grasses and wildflowers.

Need a bike repair or rental? The place to go is Bike King, a one-stop shop for all things cycling. Not only are they friendly and knowledgeable, but there's an impressive selection of bikes, including road, mountain, and children's bikes, plus a wide range of parts, accessories, helmets, and activewear.



DOG PARK AT HERITAGE VILLAGE PARK

Heritage Village Dog Park features 11 acres of off-leash dog park with designated small breed and all breed areas, seating and unpaved trails in the off-leash area, and free parking. A future playground and amphitheater are planned, and much more.

the great OUTDOORS

Inver Grove Heights is a hidden gem for all things outdoor recreation. Here are some recommendations:



TEERING IT UP

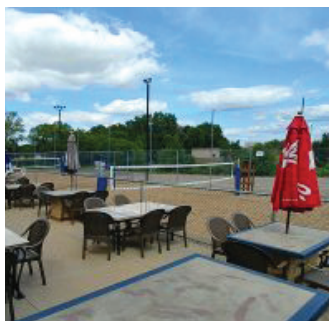
Hitting the links this summer? Inver Wood Golf Course sprawls over 275 acres of wooded terrain. Inver Wood is open to the public and offers both an 18-hole championship course and a 9-hole executive course. If that's not enough, there's even FootGolf offered at designated times during the week.

Arbor Pointe Golf Club is a beautiful 9-hole executive course. Located in the Arbor Pointe Residential Development, membership is required.

With the city's rolling hills, we're the ideal destination for disc golf. Head over to North Valley and South Valley Parks for an 18-hole course and pro shop that's open daily May through October. A daily pass is \$5, annual passes are \$30 for residents and \$40 for non-residents.



Drkula's 32 Bowl is a destination in itself; in fact, did you know they hosted the 1st Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) U.S. Open Championship in 1971? Now that's credibility! In addition to bowling, Drkula's has several outdoor sand volleyball courts and a huge patio space. During peak months, they host volleyball leagues six nights per week!



family fun INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

The Veterans Memorial Community Center (VMCC) in Inver Grove Heights is a unique activity center for residents and visitors alike. VMCC offers a wide variety of things to do, all under one roof: a pool and waterpark, fitness center, two ice arenas, indoor turf (seasonal) and special event facilities.



THE GROVE AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTER

The Grove Aquatic & Fitness Center includes an indoor water park, an 8-lane lap pool and a diving well with 1m and 3m diving boards.

ICE ARENA

The Community Center features two sheets of ice and seasonal indoor turf to accommodate a wide range of athletic events. Open Skate and Open Hockey are available, as well as a learn to skate program, an indoor walking program and rentals.

NATIONAL GUARD GYMNASIUM

The Community Center is home to the National Guard Training Center, which houses a 9,000 square foot gymnasium. It contains two basketball hoops, pickleball courts and the capability to host events with a kitchen, tables and chairs available to rent. The National Guard Gymnasium is available for larger events, trade shows, and conferences in addition to individual meeting rooms nearby that can accommodate smaller meetings and events.



the local SCENE



meet TAYLOR QUILL

There's something brewing in Inver Grove Heights. It's no accident though—in fact, there's an intricate and exacting science to the beer brewing process. Taylor Quill, head brewer at Inver Grove Brewery (IGB), walks us through some of the roughly 10 steps to get from grain and water to the finished product.



Mashing—mix grain with water ranging in temperature to reach a temperature of 130-165 degrees F, depending on the beer style.



Boil—at this point the wort is boiled for 60-90 minutes and hops are added to add bitterness and aroma, depending on the timing.



Fermentation/dry hopping—The wort is now allowed to ferment for 2-6+ weeks, this is also when beers are dry hopped.



Kepping/canning—the now fully brite and finished beer is keggered, canned, and/or served to our patrons.

Brewpub Inver Grove Brewery opened in 2019 and offers a wide variety of beers all brewed onsite complementing a full selection of freshly prepared food.

“At Inver Grove Brewing, we strive to have a beer, cocktail, or beverage for everyone. Of the 20 tap lines, ranging from light to heavy, some customer favorites include Fun Juice, which is a New England style hazy/juicy IPA packed with tropical, citrus, and stone fruit aromas and a soft mouthfeel. Knee High is our award-winning cream ale, mildly sweet with an aroma of honey, popular year-round. This was my first commercial recipe and my first award winning beer, so you could say it's my pet project.”

Taylor Quill has been perfecting the process since his days brewing brew on the family farm. That interest in brewing beer led him to pursue a Brewing & Beer Steward Technology Certificate from Dakota County Technical College. After a stint at Northern Brewer followed by a position as assistant brewer at Lakeville Brewing (which is under the same ownership as IGB), Quill accepted the head brewer position at IGB. He even helped design the brewing infrastructure.

“I loved every aspect of designing the brewery, from concept to placing the equipment, it was all very exciting. The best parts were working the challenges like how to get the tanks out of the semi when they arrived days earlier than initially planned, and once in place, to get all the equipment in place and ready for commissioning. I remember just standing in the middle of the brewery and thinking to myself ‘Wow, I didn't think I'd actually get it done,’ but with the support of my wife, the direction of general contractor, and some old-school farm knowledge from my dad I was able to finish a streamlined system.”

After being open for a just over a year, the pandemic hit IGB along with the rest of the hospitality industry. Like other establishments, IGB was forced to adopt a new business model, promoting takeout meals and canned crowlers. Additionally, they teamed up with other Minnesota breweries to design a t-shirt promoting the craft beer industry, service to their customers, and observing safety precautions.



“I would really like to thank all of our customers; there was some nervous excitement about how the community will react when we opened (and after we fully re-opened), but the people came in droves and still are. I am very excited to see what the future has in store for us here at IGB.”

25 fun activities

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

Whether you're planning a vacation to the Twin Cities or looking for a staycation, Inver Grove Heights is an ideal destination for family-friendly fun!

There is something for everyone — outdoor activities, indoor fun, local dining, or family-friendly events. Here are our picks for 25 essential experiences in Inver Grove Heights.



OUTDOORS

1. Enjoy the view from the Rock Island Swing Bridge.

The 670-foot walking pier is Inver Grove Heights' most iconic landmark and extends over the Mississippi River for a unique panoramic view.

2. Explore Pine Bend Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area.

Spread out over 256 acres, Pine Bend Bluffs offers views of the Mississippi River from 200-foot bluffs and opportunities for hiking, bird watching, and wildlife viewing.

3. Find a park...or all 27 of them. Spend the day exploring some of Inver Grove Heights' 27 parks. Whether it's playgrounds, basketball, volleyball, tennis, or pickleball courts, there are tons of free activities.

4. Grill up burgers and brats from Hometown Meats.

The local full-service butcher shop sells everything you need for a barbecue including sausages, hot dogs, burgers, and kabobs, plus sides and buns. Several parks offer grilling facilities: Skyview Park, Swing Bridge Park and River Front Park.



5. Experience Theatrical Performances (and more!) at Inver Hills Community College Situated on 90-acres, this university-style campus is set amid beautiful gardens surrounded by wooded hills and wetlands. In addition, the Campus highlights include Gallery 120 and the 300-seat Fine Arts Theatre.



6. Play a game of pickleball.

A combination of tennis, ping pong, racquetball, and badminton, pickleball is a fun activity for all ages. Courts are available at North Valley Park and Salem Hills Park.

7. Play a round at Inver Wood Golf Course.

The golf course sits on 275 acres of rolling, wooded terrain, with an 18-hole champion course and a 9-hole executive course. A driving range is also available.

8. Try disc golfing at North Valley Park. The 18-hole championship-level course winds through wooded hillsides.

9. Go mountain biking at Harmon Park Reserve.

There are 4.3 miles of single-track trails for beginning and intermediate-level mountain bikers, running through prairies, woods, and wetlands.

10. Visit the IGH Skate Park.

Skateboards, in-line skates, and bikes are welcome at the facility.



11. Walk or bike on the Mississippi River Greenway.

The paved riverside trail runs through Inver Grove Heights and links local parks, trails, and communities.

12. Go fishing. Fish from the shore or a pier at City Hall Pond, Gun Club Lake, Simley Island Pond and McGroarty Pond, some of which are stocked with species including bluegill, black crappie, and black bullhead.



INDOORS

13. Splash around at the The Grove Aquatic Center. Adults and kids of all ages will enjoy the indoor water park with slides and water features, a lap pool, and a dive well.

14. Take a trip in history at Commemorative Air Force-Minnesota Wing. Located at Fleming Field Airport, the Commemorative Air Force Minnesota Wing museum is home to six historic aircraft, a fleet of military vehicles, and a collection of WWII artifacts. Free but donations welcome.



DINING

15. Sip a pint on the patio at Inver Grove Brewing. The tap list includes nearly two dozen beers made onsite, as well as local ciders and some non-alcoholic options. The family-friendly brewpub also offers a full kitchen and kids' menu.

16. Eat a burger on the rooftop patio at B-52 Burgers and Brew. Soak up some sun and try one of the creative burgers on the menu, which feature unique toppings like jalapeno bacon jam, wontons, and green olives with cream cheese. Any burger can be made vegan by request.

17. Experience live music and great food at Jersey's Bar & Grill. Beloved for their iconic cheese-stuffed Jersey Juicys, among other food favorites, and their popular music scene. The menu also includes classic bar appetizers, specialty burgers, chicken sandwiches, salads, homemade soups, and comfort food entrees.

18. Enjoy a meal on the patio at Mallards. The menu is inspired by regional U.S. and global cuisines, ranging from New England lobster rolls to Korean BBQ beef tacos. Lunch and dinner are served daily.

19. Cool down with a bubble tea from iPho2. Build your own beverage with your choice of flavors, tapioca pearls, and jellies.



SHOPPING

20. Get nostalgic at Nerdin-Out. An homage to all things nostalgic and nerdy—the expansive store is also one of Inver Grove Heights' newest businesses. You'll find arcade games, board games, comics, and trading cards, video games and more!

21. Browse local produce at the Inver Grove Heights Farmers Market. The market is held Sundays from mid-June through mid-October at the

Veterans Memorial Community Center parking lot, and features locally grown fruits and vegetables, honey, flowers, seasonings, and salsa.

22. Shop at Gertens Garden Center. Spruce up your indoor or outdoor space with plants from Gertens. Their Inver Grove Heights retail store center offers a huge selection of annuals, perennials, house plants, roses, and more. Plus, you're buying straight from the source.

23. Buy some plants at Gerten's Farm Market. The locally-owned garden center offers over 600 varieties of plants, including flowers, herbs, fruits, and vegetable varieties. Gardening and landscaping supplies are also available.



EVENTS

24. Check out Inver Grove Heights Days. Held the weekend following Labor Day, Inver Grove Heights Days is a weekend of fun for all ages, with events including a treasure hunt, bingo tent, and discounted bowling at Drkula's 32 Bowl. For kids, there's a family fun night with giant inflatables and carnival games, plus a children's treasure hunt. Other highlights include a parade, fireworks, and community bike ride along the Mississippi River.

25. Try some local fare at IGH Food Truck Days. Purchase snacks, dessert, or dinner from local vendors and enjoy some family activities at Rich Valley Athletic Complex held annually in July and August.

the local SCENE



meet ROB & ROBIN REITBERGER

Hometown Sweets might be Inver Grove Heights' newest business, but owners Rob and Robin Reitberger are familiar faces: the couple also own Hometown Meats, next door to their new venture.



"Meats and sweets go together!" says Rob. He explains that Hometown Sweets is a one-stop shop for sweet and savory snacks, offering eight different kinds of popcorn, with hot butter, caramel, and cheddar cheese popcorn available at all times. Rob's favorite is the two-way mix of cheddar and caramel popcorn.



The shop's ice cream is sourced from Wisconsin-based Cedar Crest, with a rotating selection of 16 different flavors. Customers can pick from waffle and cake cones, one or two scoop dishes, malts, shakes, and floats. If you'd like to stock your freezer at home, ice cream is also available by the pint or quart.

"What's unique about Hometown Sweets is our selection caters to all ages whether it's candy, ice cream, popcorn, or chocolate," says Robin.

Hometown Sweets' most attention-grabbing merchandise may be the candy: the colorful display includes bulk favorites like gummy sharks and gummy hamburgers, seven types of taffy, Smarties, and bubble gum. There are also nostalgic candies like Bit O'Honey and Starlite mints. Kids of all ages will appreciate the sucker tree stocked with several different varieties. Need a special occasion treat or a sweet gift? Browse the selection of gourmet, locally-made chocolates from Abdallah Candies. Hometown Sweets even offers locally-made bakery-style dog treats in a variety of fun shapes.



The Reitbergers appreciate the community's support of Hometown Meats and Hometown Sweets; in fact, they've set up picnic benches and tables for customers to enjoy their ice cream and popcorn outside in the sunshine.

You'll also see Hometown Meats serving up hamburgers and hot dogs at local community events throughout the year. If you've attended Inver Grove Heights Days (held the weekend after Labor Day) you'll see their food truck business catering for hundreds at the opening festivities.

"Growing up in Inver Grove Heights, I'm proud to serve the community and give back," says Rob.

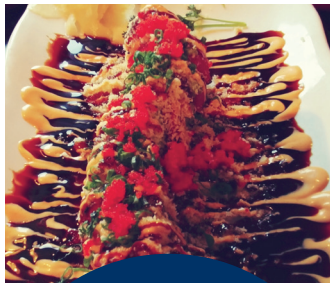
*Hometown
is where the
heart is!*



local FOOD SCENE

Give your taste buds the experience they deserve. With 30+ dining options, Inver Grove Heights has something for everyone! From brews to burgers, tacos to treats, iPho to ice cream, sandwiches to sushi, Inver Grove Heights has an unique collection of dining spots.

While you're in town, be sure to soak up the sun at one of our many patios.



tag us

Did you have a great experience at a local restaurant? Share your photo with us on social media by using the hashtag #VisitIGH

AMERICAN

Applebee's Grill & Bar
www.applebees.com

Bierstube Steakhouse & Grill
www.thebierstube.com

Cahill Diner
www.cahilldiner.com

Hometown Meats
www.hometown-meats.com

Mallards Inver Grove Heights
www.mallardsmn.com

Moose Lodge
www.sspmooselodge.com

Outback Steakhouse
www.outback.com

ASIAN

A & L Chinese 651-453-1268

iPho2 by Saignon
www.iphomn.com

Iwa Sushi
www.iwasushimn.com

Little Asia Bowl
651-306-0150

Super Wok
www.superwokmn.com

COFFEE

Caribou Coffee - 2 Locations
www.cariboucoffee.com

Starbucks
www.starbucks.com

FAST FOOD

A & W Restaurant
www.aw-inver-grove-heights.business.site

J's Fish & Chicken
www.jsfishandchicken.com

Jimmy John's
www.jimmyjohns.com

McDonald's - 2 Locations
www.mcdonalds.com

Subway - 2 Locations
www.subway.com

ICE CREAM & SPECIALTY TREATS

Dairy Queen
www.dairyqueen.com

Hometown Sweets
www.hometown-sweets.com

MEXICAN

Los Portales Bar & Grill
651-200-3349

Rincon Mexicano
651-457-2755

Taqueria El Rincon
651-457-2652

PIZZA

Dominick's Pizza
www.dominickspizzamn.com

Domino's Pizza
www.dominos.com

Carbone's Pizzeria
www.carbonespizzeria.com

Little Caesars Pizza
www.littlecaesars.com

Old World Pizza
www.oldworldpizzamn.com

Turitto's Pizza & Subs
www.turittos.com

SPORTS BAR & GRILL

B-52 Burgers & Brews
www.b52burgersandbrew.com

Celt's Pub
www.celts-pub.com

Drkula's 32 Bowl
www.dracspub.com

Jersey's Bar & Grill
www.jerseysbar.com

Mississippi Pub
www.mississippipub.com

Overboard Bar & Grill
651-528-6505

the local SCENE



meet “ANNOUNCER GUY” BRIAN SWEENEY



“There is something about being able to provide an experience for players at the high school or collegiate level that they might receive at a professional stadium or arena,” Sweeney explains. He recalls a goal call for a Simley High School hockey player who achieved a hat trick with only seconds between her second and third goal. “As the P.A. announcer, calling her name and the goal call helps enhance that moment for the player, parents, and fans,” Sweeney says.

Studies show that less than 1% of high school athletes go on to play at the collegiate level, let alone professional sports. With that in mind, Sweeney wants to use his call of the game to evoke a professional setting.

“I want to give them something to remember someday—a goal or touchdown call. ‘I heard my name screamed from the top of the guy’s lungs across the P.A. system, everyone was clapping and cheering for me, and I looked to the stands and my Mom was waving,’” Sweeney says. “I’m helping with those memories both for the student-athlete and the parents.”

“Another thing I’ve always prided myself in is saying the names correctly. If I’m not sure, I’ll make it a point to find the athlete or coach to find out. Out of respect, they deserve to have their name properly called and that’s my job as a P.A. announcer.”

Sweeney’s level of work and professionalism earned him the National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers (NASPAA) 2019-20 Public Address (P.A.) Announcer of the Year Award.

His work as a P.A. announcer goes well beyond Simley in Inver Grove Heights—he also calls games for the Minnesota Vixen, who previously played at Spartan Stadium in Inver Grove Heights and recently found a new home at Sea Foam Stadium in St. Paul. The Vixen are the longest continuously operated women’s tackle football team in the nation. In addition, Sweeney calls games for University of Minnesota Golden Gophers hockey, Concordia University St. Paul, and a host of other collegiate games and collegiate championships.



Photo Credit: Minnesota Vixen

When he’s not calling games, Brian “Announcer Guy” Sweeney enjoys interacting with his local community. Since 2018, Sweeney has co-broadcasted the Inver Grove Heights Days parade with coverage provided by Town Square Television, a local community television station. “I love how Inver Grove Heights does their town festival at the beginning of the year because the kids are back at school and they can walk in the parade with their teams and organizations. It’s fun to watch the parade and talk to people too. Inver Grove Heights has that hometown feel.”

insider tips

“A few things I like is you can get on a bike trail and literally go anywhere in the city, to restaurants or the river,” Sweeney says. Appropriately, he has a sports recommendation: “I also used to be in a darts league at Drkula’s. Actually, I got a league trophy in the trophy case there. That’s a fun spot.”

Folow Brian@Mr_AnnoucerGuy





must see **ATTRACTIONS**

Traveling to the Twin Cities for a getaway, vacation, concert or event, or other occasion? Plan to stay in Inver Grove Heights while you visit these great Twin Cities attractions.

SAINT PAUL 5 MINUTE DRIVE

Saint Paul has it all. Minnesota's State Capitol building, Saint Paul Cathedral and James J. Hill House are architectural masterpieces.

Home to the Saint Paul Saints baseball team at CHS Field, Minnesota Wild at Xcel Energy Center, Minnesota United at Allianz Field and Minnesota RollerGirls at Roy Wilkins Auditorium.

Attend a concert at Xcel Energy Center, Palace Theater, Ordway Center for Performing Arts, and Fitzgerald Theater.

Don't stop there as St. Paul is home to three state museums: the Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota Children's Museum and Minnesota History Center which contain the state archives.

Connect with the Mississippi River aboard Padelford Riverboats.

Check out Como Zoo, one of the nation's last free zoos, and the majestic Marjorie McNeely Conservatory.

**EAGAN
5 MINUTE DRIVE**
Skoll! Inver Grove Heights borders TCO Performance Center in Eagan. Catch the action of Vikings Training Camp in late July to early August. Don't miss the Vikings museum, which is open year-round. TCO Stadium also hosts a variety of music and special events.



**MALL OF AMERICA
10 MINUTE DRIVE**
One of the most visited tourist destinations in the country, Mall of America® features something for everyone – over 520 stores, 50 restaurants, Nickelodeon Universe, Sea Life Aquarium and experiences galore. Plus, there's no sales tax on clothing or shoes!

**MINNEAPOLIS
20 MINUTE DRIVE**
Planning to venture to downtown Minneapolis for a concert, game, or event? Book your hotel in Inver Grove Heights and take transportation services to downtown or the Blue Line at MSP International Airport for transportation to downtown.



45 MINUTE DRIVE
Spend an afternoon or evening at popular area attractions including Canterbury Park, Paisley Park, or Valleyfair. These locations are within easy navigation from any of our affordable Inver Grove Heights hotels.



what's **HAPPENING**

Events are a great way to connect with community and visitors alike.

Need an excuse to get the family outdoors this summer? IGH Food Truck Days are a great way to enjoy the outdoors, make connections and sample a variety of foods and treats from local food trucks.

City festival goers unite! Inver Grove Heights Days is a weekend of fun for all ages, with events including a treasure hunt, bingo tent, and discounted bowling at Drkula's 32 Bowl. For kids, there's a family fun night with giant inflatables and carnival games, plus a children's treasure hunt. Other highlights include a parade, fireworks, and community bike ride along the Mississippi River.

Are you a geek for holiday lights? Look no further than "Light Up the Heights" in Inver Grove Heights. A major stop on holiday light tours, the annual event is a lively competition between neighbors for a chance to win the best holiday lights contest.

THE TWIN CITIES ARE HOME TO GREAT EVENTS.

MSRA Back to the 50's Weekend, Vikings Training Camp at TCO Stadium, and the Minnesota State Fair (to name a few).



JANUARY
Winter Carnival
US Pond Hockey Championships

FEBRUARY
City of Lakes Loppet
Polar Plunges

MARCH
Minnesota United Home Opener
St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

APRIL
Minnesota Twins Home Opener
Minnesota Vixen Home Opener
St. Paul Art Crawl

MAY
Festival of Nations
Cinco de Mayo Celebrations
St. Paul Saints Home Opener
Minnesota Lynx Home Opener
Flint Hills International
Children's Festival

JUNE
Grand Old Day
Commemorative Air Force
Museum Spring Swing
Big Band Hangar Dance
Back to the 50's Car Show
Twin Cities Pride Parade
Twin Cities Jazz Festival



JULY
Basilica Block Party
Minneapolis Aquatennial
Minnesota Vikings Training
Camp Begins

AUGUST
Uptown Art Fair
Dakota County Fair
Irish Fair
Minnesota Renaissance
Festival Begins
Minnesota State Fair

SEPTEMBER
Minnesota Vikings Home Opener
Inver Grove Heights Days
Commemorative Air Force
Museum Fall Bomber Dance
Oktoberfest Celebrations

OCTOBER
Twin Cities Marathon
Minnesota Wild Home Opener
Minnesota Timberwolves
Home Opener

NOVEMBER
Veteran's Day Ceremony in IGH
Holiday Shopping Season
Wells Fargo WinterSkate Begins

DECEMBER
Light up the Heights
Holiday Flower Show
Holiday Theater Performances

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ATTRACTIONS AND MUCH MORE!



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