

Be a tourist in your own backyard

On the Friday Fish Fry Trail in Ozaukee County



The Friday Fish Fry is one of Wisconsin's most cherished and unique traditions. Its history is said to go back to the days when European settlers throughout the state took advantage of the vast bounty provided by the waterways of Lake Michigan. Many of those



Photo courtesy of the cheel, above, and Hankr, right.



The cheel, Thiensville, features a lightly dusted lake perch with potato pancakes and local La Campagne sourdough rye bread.

southern to our northern border and everywhere in between. Here's just a sampling of where to partake in the long-preserved tradition of the Friday Fish Fry.

Heading into Ozaukee County from the south, your first stop might be Café Hollander at the corner of Mequon and Cedarburg roads. Café Hollander offers a Friday-only Fish Fry special. It includes a three-piece or all-you-can eat deep-fried cod, a baked cod or a crispy potato chip crusted cod, which comes with all the favorites, including coleslaw, rye bread and choice of side.

Ferrante's, 10404 N Port Washington Road, also offers a delicious beer-battered and baked cod but also fresh lake perch, either dusted or beer-battered. Again, these dinners come with all the fixings and, in true Ferrante's style, may include a side of penne pasta with marinara sauce. Libby Montana Bar & Grille, 5616 W. Donges Bay Road, offers up a delicious fresh and crispy fried cod and lake perch.

Moving north, you only need to go up the road to Thiensville to find a handful of fish fry options. Skippy's Burger Bar, 113 Green Bay Road, offers a whole menu of options, from southern crusted bluegill to breaded lake perch, to grilled fish. And if you are not feeling fishy, there is also jumbo breaded shrimp included in the Friday options. And choices do not stop there in Thiensville. The cheel, 105 S. Main St., offers its award-winning fresh meagre fish lightly fried in a chickpea and rice-flour gluten-free batter, served up with golden raisin slaw with red and green cabbage.

Cedarburg is proud of its options for the Friday tradition as well. On any given Friday at the Stilt House Gastro Bar, W62 N630 Washington Ave., you will find its potato chip-crusted cod and lightly breaded bluegill fish fry, along with a creative special of the day guaranteed to expand

were Catholic and adhered to the tradition of foregoing the consumption of meat on Fridays, which eventually lead to the evolution of today's Friday Fish Fry.

In Ozaukee County, we still enjoy a good traditional bounty of fish, and mass consumption of our

finned fried friends continues in a variety of styles from our



Photos submitted

Ferrante's, Mequon, offers a beer-battered and baked cod and fresh lake perch, either dusted or beer-battered.



your palate. Make sure to check out its Facebook page on Fridays for the latest creations. And after April 1, Wayne's Drive-In, 1331 Covered Bridge Road, will be open again and back in the game with its fish fry, offering four pieces of cod, rye bread and coleslaw, served with tartar sauce and lemon.

Traveling east to Grafton, you will again have several options to satisfy your fish cravings. Juice's Ghost Town, 990 Ulaio Road, offers up three varieties of fish, including perch, haddock and walleye, all offered breaded or beer battered or for just \$1 more, you can have them broiled or pan fried. Juice's Ghost Town also offers a children's portion option, ensuring all in the family can experience this delicious tradition. Want to spend your evening in downtown Grafton? Atlas BBQ, 1304 12th Ave., steps away from its traditional meat favorites and offers a Friday-only beer battered or baked cod. John's Pizzeria, 1401 11th Ave., has both perch and cod options, all offered with a salad, pasta salad or coleslaw, along with its Italian bread and butter. John's also offers 10-piece to-go baskets of both the perch and cod for those needing to feed the crew at home.

There's nothing better than enjoying a fish fry along the shores of Lake Michigan and no better location than Port Washington. Your first stop may be at seafood favorite Newport Shores, 407 E. Jackson St., which offers its fish fry every day. Choose from tilapia, haddock, walleye, lake perch and catfish fish fries, offered breaded, deep fried or broiled. If you can't – or simply don't want to – choose from several favorites, the seafood platter is the way to go. The platter includes beer-battered shrimp, scallops and choice of perch or walleye. Just down the street, you will not only find a great craft beer but also great fried or baked cod dinner options at Inventor's Brewpub, 435 N. Lake St.

Your fish fry tour of Ozaukee County doesn't stop there. Saukville's Riverview Inn, 3172 N. Riverside Drive, offers both cod and perch dinners, all offered with french fries, salad or coleslaw and homemade bread, in a great friendly atmosphere.

For information on all these Friday Fish Fry hot spots and more, visit these restaurants' individual Facebook pages, or visit www.ozaukeetourism.com and follow the Ozaukee County Tourism

Facebook page. On behalf of the Ozaukee County Tourism Council, thank you for helping to make Ozaukee County a wonderful place for all to live, work and visit.



Photos submitted
Stilt House in Cedarburg serves up potato chip-crusted cod and lightly breaded bluegill fish fries.

