

THE CITY GUIDE

Brighton

Housing information, events and lifestyle, and what makes this small lake town feel like home.

HOUSING · SCHOOLS · OUTDOORS · DINING · EVENTS



Current Market Overview

JUNE 2026 REALCOMP II /
SHOWINGTIME

Single-family	Condo & attached	Year to date
The core Brighton market – and the tightest of the three, with barely any standing inventory.	Low-maintenance living, and the one corner of Brighton where choice is actually growing.	Six months in, closings have more than doubled – the demand is real, the supply is not.
Median price	Median price	Median price
Days on market	Days on market	Closed sales
Months of supply	Months of supply	New listings

Source: Realcomp II Ltd. Local Market Update, Brighton – June 2026.

The Brighton market

JUNE 2026 SINGLE-FAMILY
HOMES

\$407,000

MEDIAN SALE PRICE

Up 16.3% year over year

11 days

MEDIAN DAYS ON MARKET

9 days a year ago

9

HOMES FOR SALE

Down 65.4% year over year

0.6 mo

MONTHS OF SUPPLY

101.2% of list price received

What the numbers are telling us

Brighton has almost nothing for sale. Nine single-family homes were on the market in June against thirteen closings — roughly two and a half weeks of supply, where a balanced market runs four to six months.

That scarcity is doing the pricing. Homes sold at 101.2% of list in eleven days, and the median is up 16.3% over last June. Buyers should be pre-approved, ready to see same-day, and prepared to compete on terms rather than price alone.

For sellers, this is as strong a position as Brighton has offered — the caveat being that you will likely be buying back into the same market.



Realcomp II Ltd. Local Market Update, June 2026.

Brighton schools

01 Hornung Elementary

Five of five SchoolDigger stars and ranked #60 of 1,488 Michigan elementary schools, with 67–84% of students proficient in ELA and math.

02 Scranton Middle School

The district's highest-ranked building: #44 of 890 Michigan middle schools, five of five stars, and better than 65% proficiency across core subjects.

03 Brighton High School · grades 9–12

An A on Niche and the top 10% of Michigan high schools per U.S. News. Average SAT 1230, average ACT 29, and a 98% graduation rate, with AP coursework taken by more than half the student body.



THE DISTRICT

Brighton Area Schools serves roughly **5,800 students across 8 schools** and sits in the top 5% of Michigan districts on combined proficiency.

District rank, Michigan	#24 of 846
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Math proficiency	64% vs. 35% state
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Reading proficiency	69% vs. 46% state
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Rankings: SchoolDigger, PublicSchoolReview, Niche and U.S. News, 2025–26.

ALSO WORTH A LOOK

Spencer Road Elementary · Hawkins Elementary · Charyl Stockwell Academy ·
Livingston Christian Schools · FlexTech High School

BRIGHTON · OUTDOORS

Lakes & Trails

Brighton Recreation Area

4,947 acres of glacial hills and oak forest holding nine inland lakes, five campgrounds, a swim beach, disc golf and a 35-mile trail system — 19 miles of it open to horses.

Island Lake Recreation Area

4,000 acres on the Huron River with four inland lakes, two swim beaches, kayak and paddleboard rentals, and mountain bike loops of 9.1, 5.6 and 3.2 miles.

Huron Meadows Metropark

1,576 acres along the river: a regulation golf course, hike-bike and nature trails, and groomed cross-country skiing and ice fishing once it freezes.

The Mill Pond

Downtown's front yard — a walkable waterfront path, public art and an amphitheater that carries the summer concert schedule.

WHERE WE EAT

Brighton dining

The Reserve Brighton

Fine dining · Main Street. Prime steaks, fresh seafood, a craft cocktail bar and a long wine list.

Stillwater Grill

American · W. Grand River. The patio table in town — terrace seating looking out over the Mill Pond.

Bourbons

Southern · 440 W. Main. Nashville hot chicken, shrimp and grits, brisket and blackened grouper.

Ciao Amici's

Italian · Downtown. Classic Italian in a low-lit room; the standing anniversary reservation.

Brighton Bar & Grill

American bistro · Downtown. The long-running Main Street standby, award-winning and always busy.

El Arbol Taqueria

Mexican · Downtown. Street tacos, cold margaritas and salsa people drive in for.

La Marsa

Mediterranean · Brighton. Lebanese-Mediterranean plates; the local benchmark for the genre.

Label Kitchen + Bar

Gastropub · Downtown. Formerly Stout — craft beer and a sharper-than-pub-food menu.

The Pound! Bar & Grill

Sports bar · Downtown. All-American, dog-themed, every day is gameday.

Captain's ön Main

Espresso bar & pizzeria · Main St. Coffee in the morning, pizza at night, walk-up counter.

ALSO WORTH A LOOK

Brewery Becker — German-style brewery with a patio · Champ's Pub — the burger list · Cozy Inn · Sushi Zen

DOWNTOWN · SHOPPING

Four blocks, on foot

Brighton's downtown is small enough to park once and walk — a run of independently owned shops, jewelers and galleries along Main Street and Grand River, wrapped around the Mill Pond. Saturday mornings from May through October the farmers market fills in the rest.



WHERE WE SHOP

Boutiques & retail

Rosy's Boutique

Women's clothing · Main Street. A downtown favorite for everyday pieces and gifts.

The Artisan's Bench

Handmade & local art · Downtown. Michigan-made goods, jewelry and gifts.

2 Dandelions Bookstore

Books & gifts · Downtown. The independent bookshop, with local author events.

Oh My Lolli

Confections · Downtown. Hand-pulled lollipops made on an old European recipe.

Wood 'N Things

Home & décor · Downtown. Housewares, gifts and the kind of browsing that costs an hour.

Brighton Farmers Market

Saturdays, May–October · 8am–1pm. Growers, nurseries and food vendors, rain or shine.

ALSO WORTH A LOOK

Independent jewelers and art galleries along Main Street · Kensington Valley Outlets, ten minutes west · Green Oak Village Place, ten minutes south

ALL AROUND BRIGHTON

The year, as we live it

Brighton runs on a calendar. Parades in May and November, the Taste in July, concerts at the Mill Pond all summer, and the whole of Main Street lit up in December. Knowing it makes the first year feel a lot less like being new.



SEVEN TO KNOW

The big annual events

Various Parades

Main Street · The city holds parades for Memorial Day, July 4th, and Veterans Day.

Live at Millpond Park

Downtown · summer Thursdays. Free concerts at the waterfront amphitheater.

Taste of Brighton

Downtown · July. Two days of restaurant tents, live music, & fireworks at Millpond Park.

Brighton Street Art Fair

Main Street · August. Steps off at the high school and ends with a ceremony at the Mill Pond.

Smokin' Rock-N-Blues Festival

Main Street · September. BBQ + Live music makes downtown come alive.

Stars Hollow

Downtown · September. Downtown turns into an immersive fall town resembling Gilmore Girls.

Holiday Glow & Christmas Market

Main Street · late November. Carriage rides, a market, and Santa lighting the Mill Pond.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Saturday farmers market, May–October · St. Patrick's Day around downtown · the SELCRA egg hunt at Meijer Park.

WINTER

Skiing and snowboarding at Mt. Brighton; ice fishing at Huron Meadows.

SUMMER

Lake days at Island Lake and Bishop Lake; paddling the Huron.

YEAR-ROUND

Mill Pond walks, downtown dinners, and 35 miles of trail ten minutes out.

GOOD TO KNOW

Things to sort out before you move

None of this is scary — it is just what's specific to Livingston County, and it is what surprises people moving in from Metro Detroit or out of state. Pick the two or three that apply to you and let's talk them through properly.

- City of Brighton versus township taxes
- Michigan principal residence exemption
- Well water versus municipal water
- Septic field versus city sewer
- Lake frontage, canal lots and riparian rights
- Lake association and HOA dues

- School boundaries and schools-of-choice dates
- Real commute times to Ann Arbor, Detroit, Lansing
- Snow removal, plow routes and private roads
- Radon testing and basement moisture
- New construction versus resale trade-offs
- Escalation terms in a 0.6-month market





WANT THE DEEPER DIVE?

This guide covers the basics.

Every neighborhood in and around Brighton has its own price trend, school boundary and hidden trade-off that doesn't fit in one guide — lake access, township lines, well versus city water. If you're actually weighing a move, or just curious what your own street is worth right now, reach out and we'll walk through what's really happening on your block.

[Start the conversation](#)

TRU LIVING GROUP · BRIGHTON, MICHIGAN

