

Shopping in Ann Arbor

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General Information

Explanations and Tips

Prices

Prices are not fixed in the United States, so stores in Ann Arbor may charge different prices for the same item. You may want to compare prices between stores before you make a purchase. The internet is a good way to do this, especially for brand name items.

Sales Taxes

Michigan's sales tax is 6% (in 2011) for all products except food, medicine and periodical publications (newspapers and magazines but NOT books). The prices at stores do not include sales tax.

Personal Checks

Purchases made with a personal check require picture identification, preferably a Michigan Driver's License or a State of Michigan identification (ID) card. Student ID cards may not be accepted at stores off campus. It is not necessary to show your passport. Some stores, especially small businesses, might not accept checks. Personal checks are often used to pay bills.

Credit Cards

It is safer to use a credit card than cash when purchasing expensive items. A credit card defers payment until you receive a bill once a month. Read the information that comes with your credit card carefully and pay attention to monthly interest fees and late payment penalties. Major credit cards in the U.S. include VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Generally most stores accept VISA or MasterCard. If your credit card is lost or stolen, contact the credit card company immediately.

Cash

Carry money in small bills (e.g. \$5, \$10, \$20) because smaller stores may not accept large bills, such as \$50 and \$100. It is not safe to carry large amounts of cash.

ATM and Check Cards

Most stores accept check/debit cards, which immediately deduct the money directly from your bank account. They can also be used to withdraw cash at ATMs, but there may be a service fee or \$1-3. Always read the fine print. There is a conversion fee for using foreign ATM cards.

Coupons

Coupons can save you money on food and daily necessities. Coupons are available in newspapers (Detroit News, Detroit Free Press) and online. At the beginning of each term, coupons for downtown restaurants and stores are distributed around campus. Check the coupon's expiration date on coupons and the terms of discount. Give your coupon to the cashier at the beginning of your purchase.

Store Savings Card

Kroger, CVS, RiteAid and other stores offer free programs ("Kroger Plus" at Kroger, "ExtraCare Rewards" at CVS, and "Wellness +" at RiteAid) that provide product discounts. After you sign up you receive a card to keep in your wallet or on a keychain. Ask the store's customer service for details.

Return Policy

If you are not satisfied with an item or service you have purchased, you should return it as soon as possible. All stores require a sales receipt for a cash refund or credit card refund. If you don't have a receipt or the item is used, some stores will still exchange the item or give you store credit, depending on store policy. Underwear and bathing suits are almost always not returnable, and some stores do not accept returns on sale items. Ask for details before you buy.

Alcoholic Beverages

State law requires that the buyer of alcoholic beverages be 21 years or older. You may be asked for an identification card when purchasing alcohol even if you look older than 21. It is illegal to purchase alcohol for people under 21 years old.

Mall and Store Locations

[Major shopping centers in the Ann Arbor area](#) [1]

General Merchandise

Locations listed as *Near Campus* are within walking distance of Central Campus. UM buses can be used to travel between North Campus and Central Campus. Traver Village Mall, which has a Kroger grocery store, is within walking distance from North Campus.

For locations listed as *Off Campus*, you can use [The Ride](#) [2], the Ann Arbor bus system. Refer to the Ride Guide in your orientation folder for more details. Schedules are also available at Blake Transit Center downtown. Locations listed as *Far from Campus* require a car.

Clothing

Near Campus

[Bivouac](#) [3] - Outdoor clothing, boots, shoes, coats, and backpacks

[Footprints](#) [4] - Wide range of comfort shoes and boots

[Moosejaw](#) [5] - Outdoor clothing, boots, shoes, coats, and backpacks.

[Pitaya](#) [6] - Inexpensive, trendy clothing for women

[Renaissance](#) [7] - More expensive, designer and custom clothing

[Sam's Clothing](#) [8] - Levi's, shoes, boots, and coats

[Urban Outfitters](#) [9] - Moderately priced, trendy clothing, accessories, and home goods

[Van Boven](#) [10] - More expensive, men's suits and formal wear

[Van Boven Shoes](#) [11] - Range of shoes and boots for men and women

[Vintage to Vogue](#) [12] - More expensive women's clothing, cosmetics, and candles

Off Campus

[Briarwood Mall](#) [13] - Department stores Marshall Fields, JC Penney, Sears, and Von Maur; men's and women's clothing stores including Express, Eddie Bauer, J. Crew, Aldo, Nine West, and Abercrombie & Fitch

[Marshalls](#) [14] (Arborland) - Discount brand-name clothing, shoes, and home goods

[REI](#) [15] - Coats, boots, backpacks, outdoor clothing and gear

[Target](#) [16] (Oak Valley Mall) - Inexpensive clothing, home goods, and more

[TJ Maxx](#) [17] (Westgate Shopping Center) - Discount brand-name clothing, shoes, and home goods

Note on Winter Clothing: You will need a long, warm coat and insulated, waterproof snow boots for Ann Arbor's cold, windy, snowy winters. Look for wool, down-filled or synthetic fiber-filled coats that are big enough to wear multiple layers of clothing underneath. The most effective styles cover the neck, have close-fitting cuffs, and are snug at the waist. Boots should be lined with fleece, Thinsulate, or another insulating material, have a non-slip tread, and be tall enough to tuck in your pantlegs. You should also have a wool or fleece scarf, hat, and waterproof gloves or mittens. Stores with a good selection of winter coats and boots include Bivouac, Moosejaw, REI, and the Land's End Shop at Sears.

Computers & Electronics

On Campus

[U-M Computer Showcase](#) [18] (Michigan Union and Pierpont Commons) - Computers and accessories at special prices

Off Campus

[Best Buy](#) [19] - Computers, TVs, audio, video

[Big George's](#) [20] - TV, audio and video

[Kmart](#) [21] - TVs, audio, video

[Meijer](#) [22] - TVs, audio, video

[Target](#) [16] - TVs, audio, video

Furniture

Near Campus

[Treasure Mart](#) [23] - Vintage and antique furniture

Off Campus

[Art Van Furniture](#) [24] - New furniture

[Mattress World](#) [25] - Beds

[Kmart](#) [21] - Furniture that requires assembly

[Meijer](#) [22] - Furniture that requires assembly

[Target](#) [16] - Furniture that requires assembly

Far from Campus

[Ikea](#) [26] (Canton) - 20 mins. from campus by car. Furniture that requires assembly

Household Items and Appliances

Near Campus

[Downtown Home & Garden](#) [27] - Linens, dishes, and towels

Off Campus

[ABC Warehouse](#) [28] - Large and small appliances

[Bed, Bath and Beyond](#) [28] (Arborland Mall) - Linens, dishes, towels, small appliances, decor

[Best Buy](#) [19] - Large and small appliances

[Kmart](#) [21] - Linens, dishes, towels, and small appliances

[Meijer](#) [22] - Linens, dishes, towels, and small appliances

[Sears](#) [29] (Briarwood Mall) - Large and small appliances

[Target](#) [16] - Linens, dishes, towels, and small appliances

Off-Campus Fabric and Craft Supplies

[Jo-Ann Fabrics and Crafts](#) [30] (Oak Valley Mall) - Large selection of fabric and craft supplies

[Michael's](#) [31] - Large selection of craft supplies, art supplies, seasonal decorations

[Wal-Mart](#) [32] - Fabric and craft supplies

Far from Campus

[Ikea](#) [33] (Canton) - 20 mins. from campus by car. Linens, dishes, towels, window coverings, lighting, storage and more

Medicine, Contraceptives, Cosmetics, and Personal Care

On Campus

[UHS Pharmacy](#) [34] - Prescription and non-prescription drugs and contraceptives. Prices for prescription contraceptives (birth control pills and diaphragms) and non-prescription contraceptives (condoms, contraceptive foams, jellies, sponges) are usually lower than at regular pharmacies.

Near Campus

[CVS](#) [35] (S. State St.) - Prescription and non-prescription drugs and contraceptives

[The Village Apothecary](#) [36] - Prescription and non-prescription drugs and contraceptives

Off Campus

Prescription and non-prescription drugs, contraceptives, personal care items, and cosmetics:

[CVS](#) [37]

[Kmart](#) [21]

[Meijer](#) [22]

[Target](#) [38]

[Walgreen's](#) [39]

[Wal-Mart](#) [32]

For cosmetics:

Sears, Von Maur, Marshall Field's and JC Penny at [Briarwood Mall](#) [13]

Textbooks and School Supplies

School supplies are available at all bookstores listed below and at stores like Meijer.

On Campus

[North Campus Bookstore](#) [40]

[Michigan Union Bookstore](#) [41]

Near Campus

[Ulrich's](#) [42]

Groceries and International Food Markets

Groceries

Near Campus

[Ann Arbor Farmer's Market](#) [43] - Fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, arts & crafts, and flowers

[Busch's Fresh Food Market](#) [44] (Green Rd) - Full grocery store near North Campus

[Kroger](#) [45] (Plymouth Rd) - Full grocery store near North Campus

[People's Food Co-op](#) [46] - Bulk foods, spices, fresh produce, specialty foods, and groceries

[The Produce Station](#) [47] - Fresh produce, bread, flowers, and prepared foods

[Sergeant Pepper's General Store](#) [48]

[Strickland's Market](#) [49]

White Market (E. William)

Off Campus

[Kroger](#) [45] (Various locations) - Full grocery store

[Meijer](#) [22] (Various Locations) - One-stop shopping

[Hiller's](#) [50] - Full grocery store, large selection of international foods

[Plum Market](#) [51] - Upscale grocer

[Trader Joe's](#) [52] - Produce, specialty foods, frozen foods, snacks, unique foods

[Whole Foods](#) [53] (Two locations) - Organic foods, health foods, groceries, personal care items

Mediterranean, Indian, and Pakistani

[Ahmos](#) [54] - Mediterranean

[Aladdin's Market](#) [55] - Mediterranean foods, halal meats, and baked-goods

[Bombay Grocers](#) [56] - Indian

[Foods of India](#) [57] - Indian

[Jerusalem International Market](#) [58] - Mediterranean foods, halal meats, and baked-goods

[Mediterranean Market](#) [59] - Mediterranean foods, halal meats, and baked-goods

Far East Asian

[Dong-Yu China Market](#) [60] - Chinese

[Galleria Market](#) [61] - Primarily Korean

[Hua Xing](#) [62] - Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai

[Hyundai Asian Market](#) [63] - Asian and especially Korean

[Manna International Market](#) [64] - Food from all over the world, especially Korean

[Tsai Grocery](#) [65] - Chinese and Japanese food

European

[Zingerman's Deli](#) [66] - Upscale Gourmet European deli

Miscellaneous

[Arbor Farms Market](#) [67] - Natural foods and some international foods

[Morgan & York](#) [68] - Italian, Asian and South Asian products, imported wines, cheeses, coffee and tea

[Monahan's Seafood Market](#) [69] - Fresh fish, smoked fish and seafood items, appetizers, soups

Resale Shops for Used Clothing, Furniture or Household Items

Resale shops offer used items at much lower costs than new merchandise.

[Ann Arbor PTO](#) [70] - Clothes, furniture, household items

[Kiwanis Club Sales](#) [71] - This organization sells a variety of items, including furniture, clothing, books and kitchen utensils. Open every Saturday. No delivery.

[Old Woman in the Shoe](#) [32] - Used clothing for kids

[Recycle Ann Arbor Reuse Center](#) [72] - Reclaimed major appliances and furniture

[St. Vincent de Paul](#) [73] - Clothes, furniture, household items

[Salvation Army](#) [74] - Clothes, furniture, household items

[U of M Property Disposition](#) [75] - Used university furniture and other items.

[Garage & Yard Sales](#) - Most garage sales are held in the summer on weekends. People advertise on Craigslist and by placing fliers on trees, lightposts, and in their yards. You can find good deals on furniture and household items, and can usually negotiate prices.

Outlet Malls

Outlet malls offer discounts on past-season designer merchandise. They are located far from campus and require a car.

[Birch Run Outlet Mall](#) [76]

[Tanger Outlet Mall](#) [77]

[Great Lakes Crossing Outlet Mall](#) [78]

Shopping Online

Online stores

National retailers often offer a better selection of goods online than in their stores. These sites usually charge shipping fees and sales tax, and you will need a credit card for most purchases.

Stores can be found with an online search engine ([google](#) [79] or [yahoo](#) [80]). The website [shopping.yahoo.com](#) [81] brings together many online retailers and provides price comparisons.

Be cautious when buying online. Make sure you are buying from a legitimate online retailer. Check sites such as Yahoo! Shopping for reviews of online retailers and products.

Buying goods online

Online auctions and marketplaces have made it much easier to find new and used goods at reasonable prices. Delivery and payment methods vary, but credit cards and PayPal ([www.paypal.com](#) [82]) are commonly used.

[Craig's List](#) [83]

A great place for used items such as furniture, cars, books, music, electronics and more. Ads are often posted anonymously so it is possible that some ads may be inaccurate or misleading. When purchasing items or checking out a product, always arrange to meet in a well-populated, familiar area and bring friends along. Always check out the product in person before purchasing the item.

[eBay](#) [84]

Online auction site. Auctions run for a specified number of days. Buyers bid on items and the the highest bid wins.

Source URL: <https://internationalcenter.umich.edu/resources/life/shopping>

Links

[1] <https://businessfinder.mlive.com/MI-Ann-Arbor/Shopping-Centers-and-Malls>

[2] <https://www.theride.org/>

[3] <http://www.bivouacannarbor.com>

[4] <https://www.footprintsannarbor.com/>

[5] <https://www.moosejaw.com/content/ann-arbor-shop>

[6] <https://pitaya.com/>

[7] <https://www.renaissanceannarbor.com/>

[8] <http://www.samsbasicclothes.com>

[9] <https://www.urbanoutfitters.com/>

[10] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/van-boven-clothing-ann-arbor>

[11] <http://www.vanbovenshoes.com/>

[12] <http://www.shopv2v.com/>
[13] <https://www.simon.com/mall/briarwood-mall>
[14] <https://www.marshalls.com/us/store/stores/Ann-Arbor-MI-48104/201/aboutstore/>
[15] <https://www.rei.com/stores/ann-arbor.html>
[16] <https://www.target.com/si/Ann-Arbor-Store/634>
[17] <https://tjmaxx.tjx.com/store/stores/directions.jsp?sid=475>
[18] <http://showcase.itcs.umich.edu/>
[19] <https://stores.bestbuy.com/mi/ann-arbor/3100-lohr-rd-408.html>
[20] <http://www.big-georges.com>
[21] <https://www.kmart.com/>
[22] <https://www.meijer.com/>
[23] <https://thetreasuremart.wordpress.com/>
[24] <https://www.artvan.com/storedetails?StoreID=53>
[25] <https://www.mattressworldnorthwest.com/>
[26] <https://www.ikea.com/us/en/stores/canton/>
[27] <http://www.downtownhomeandgarden.com/>
[28] <http://www.abcwarehouse.com>
[29] <https://www.sears.com/>
[30] <https://www.joann.com/>
[31] <https://www.michaels.com/>
[32] <https://www.walmart.com/>
[33] <https://www.ikea.com/us/en/store/canton>
[34] <https://www.uhs.umich.edu/pharmacy>
[35] <https://www.cvs.com/store-locator/details-directions/3584>
[36] <https://www.sav-mor.com/>
[37] <https://www.cvs.com/>
[38] <https://www.target.com/>
[39] <https://www.walgreens.com/>
[40] <http://umnorth.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=26051&catalogId=10001&languageId=-1>
[41] <http://umichigan.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=28052&catalogId=10001&languageId=-1>
[42] <https://www.bkstr.com/ulrichsstore/home>
[43] <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/Parks-Recreation/parks-places/farmers-market/Pages/default.aspx>
[44] <https://www.buschs.com/locations/1048>
[45] <https://www.kroger.com/>
[46] <https://peoplesfood.coop/>
[47] <http://www.producestation.com/>
[48] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/sergeant-peppers-general-store-ann-arbor>
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[50] <http://hillers.com/>
[51] <http://www.plummarket.com>
[52] <https://www.traderjoes.com/>
[53] <https://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/>
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[55] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/aladdins-market-ann-arbor>
[56] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/bombay-grocers-ann-arbor>
[57] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/foods-of-india-ann-arbor>
[58] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/jerusalem-international-market-ann-arbor>
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[60] https://localwiki.org/ann-arbor/Dong_Yu_China_Market
[61] <http://www.a3galleria.com/>
[62] <https://www.huaxingmarket.com/>

- [63] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/hyundai-asian-market-ann-arbor>
- [64] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/manna-international-foods-and-gifts-ann-arbor>
- [65] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/tsai-grocery-ann-arbor>
- [66] <https://www.zingermansdeli.com/>
- [67] <https://www.arborfarms.com/>
- [68] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/morgan-and-york-ann-arbor>
- [69] <https://monahansseafood.com/>
- [70] <http://www.a2ptothriftshop.org/>
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- [72] <https://recycleannarbor.org/>
- [73] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/st-vincent-de-paul-thrift-ann-arbor>
- [74] <https://www.yelp.com/biz/the-salvation-army-family-store-and-donation-center-ann-arbor>
- [75] <http://propertydisposition.umich.edu/>
- [76] <https://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlet/birch-run>
- [77] <https://www.tangeroutlet.com/howell>
- [78] <https://www.greatlakescrossingoutlets.com/>
- [79] <http://www.google.com/>
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