

Odds Favor Fun

Bet on a great time when region's top casinos reopen

By Robin Roenker

WHETHER YOU'RE LOOKING TO win big at the slots or gaming tables, catch an A-lister in concert or enjoy some pampering at top-tier restaurants and spas, Great Lakes casinos have your entertainment options covered. When their doors reopen, try your luck at some of the region's best:



JUMER'S CASINO & HOTEL

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Rock Island, Ill.

With nearly 1,000 slot machines, 18 table games, a high-limit slot room and "the only live poker room in the Quad Cities," says Jodi Pestka, the casino's senior director of marketing, Jumer's Casino & Hotel has no shortage of ways to try your luck.

The on-site hotel features 205 guest rooms, an indoor pool and a floating Aqua Golf Range on the nearby private lake. Guests can dine at the popular Player's Buffet or enjoy a gourmet meal at DJ's Steakhouse. For added fun, catch a live performance or grab a cocktail at the Edge Nightclub.

► jumerscasinohotel.com



JACK ENTERTAINMENT

JACK CLEVELAND CASINO

Cleveland

Set in the heart of the city in a former Higbee's department store — recognizable as the site of Ralphie's Santa visit in the movie *A Christmas Story* — JACK Cleveland Casino has its own, distinctive vibe. "Unlike many casinos that are spread across one sprawling floor, we occupy four floors of the department store building, which really creates a unique feeling,"

says Aleksandra Breault, JACK Entertainment's communications manager.

The casino — just blocks from the lakefront, Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and other downtown attractions — features 1,300 slot machines, nearly 100 table games and a 30-table poker room. Refuel at the casino's Seven Chefs Buffet or on-site food court, which offers a variety of sandwiches, pizzas and burgers. ► jackentertainment.com



POTAWATOMI HOTEL & CASINO

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Milwaukee

There's gaming galore — with some 2,500 slot machines, 100 table games, a 24-hour poker room, off-track betting and a 1,350-seat bingo hall in the 1.1 million-square-foot property. But it's the extra amenities that help make Potawatomi "the most visited destination in the state of Wisconsin, with over 6 million visitors a year," says Ryan Amundson, the property's public relations manager.

Situated in downtown Milwaukee, Potawatomi features a new hotel tower plus seven on-site restaurants, from the highly rated Dream Dance Steakhouse to tasty grab-and-go at the Menomonee Valley Food Court. Visitors can unwind at the new, full-service Ember Salon & Spa or try their hand at virtual golf at Topgolf Swing Suite.

Top off a perfect stay by snagging tickets to a live performance at The Northern Lights Theater, which has hosted headliners like Ringo Starr, Bonnie Raitt, Jay Leno and more. ► paysbig.com

SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT

Mount Pleasant, Mich.

There's fun for everyone at this resort. Adults can enjoy slots and traditional table games, and the casino is readying a sports wagering venue scheduled to open later this year. Nearby Soaring Eagle Bingo is the largest facility of its kind in Michigan.

Top-tier performers are another major draw: Soaring Eagle boasts an indoor entertainment hall and outdoor concert venue. The full-service spa and multiple gourmet dining venues make it easy to feel pampered on-site. The hotel is also in the process of renovating all 516 guest rooms over the next two years.

Children can let loose at Kids Quest, a dedicated entertainment zone with a climbing wall, arcade games, indoor play gym and more. Plus, resort shuttles make it easy to access the affiliated Soaring Eagle Waterpark. "We want everybody to say, 'Yes, there's something there for me,'" says CEO Mike Bean.

► soaringeaglecasino.com



SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT