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Great lakes training center navy base

Naval Station Great Lakes is home to the United States Navy's only boot camp located in North Chicago. From the moment these naval recruits step onto the base, they live by the credo "Non sibi sed patriae" or "Not for self but for country." Today's Navy consists of over 400,000 active and reserve personnel. Once your new sailor graduates boot camp, he or she will be a member of an illustrious institution that faces a myriad of demands from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, to working with partners and allies, to dealing with multiple threats and potential conflicts. When does your sailor graduate? Click here to find out! When your Navy recruit graduates from Naval Station Great Lakes, it is not only a proud day for your family but a proud day for the nation. Make it a celebration in Lake County, Illinois and stick around for a few days. Lake County, Illinois is located halfway between Chicago and Milwaukee. The closest airports to Naval Station Great Lakes are O'Hare International Airport in Chicago and General Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee. Lake County has so much to offer you and your family as you celebrate your sailor's prestigious accomplishment at Naval Station Great Lakes' graduation. NAVSTA Great Lakes Recruit Training Command Accommodations for Navy Families Dining Options in Lake County Navy Grad Coupons & Special Offers Things To Do in Lake County 3355 Illinois Street , Great Lakes, IL 60088 Phone: 847.688.3500 Website | Map | Email Established in 1911, Naval Station Great Lakes, the "Quarterdeck of the Navy," is the Navy's largest training installation and the home of the Navy's only Boot Camp. Over 38,000 recruits will become Sailors at Recruit Training Command Great Lakes this year during an eight-week course of instruction. We will have 48 recruit graduation ceremonies this year that will attract over 125,000 visitors to Lake County. About 40 percent of those new Sailors, fresh out of boot camp, will stay at Great Lakes for training at Training Support Center Great Lakes. Training Support Center Great Lakes provides training and mentorship to new apprentice-level Sailors and functional support to Learning Sites (LS) in Great Lakes, including the Center for Surface Combat Systems, Surface Warfare School Command, the Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving, and Naval Special Warfare Preparatory School. Located on over 1,600 acres overlooking Lake Michigan, Naval Station Great Lakes supports over 50 tenant commands and elements as well as over 25,000 Sailors, Marines, Soldiers, Airmen, and DoD civilians who live and work on the installation. Our operations, along with area military retirees and educational aid payments, had a total economic impact on Illinois of \$1.3 billion in 2016. Click Here to view the Naval Station Great Lakes Guide. *Starting October 1, 2020, every state and territory resident will need to present a REAL ID compliant license/ID, or another acceptable form of identification, for accessing Federal facilities and military bases including attending graduation ceremonies at Naval Station Great Lakes, and boarding commercial aircraft. The card, itself, must be REAL ID compliant unless the resident is using an alternative acceptable document such as a passport. Click on this link for further information on real-IDs and their implementation across Illinois and the US. See here for answers to FAQs: Click here. Hours of Operation Welcome Center: Thursday 10:00 AM to 7:30 PM and Friday 5:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Contact InformationGreat Lakes Training Center hosts multiple and extremely important tenant commands. It is the one and only boot camp of the US Navy. At the same time, it is the largest military base in Illinois and the largest training field operated by the US Navy. It is located in Lake County, close to North Chicago. Inside the base, the inhabitants benefit from over 80 km of roads and 1153 facilities spread over almost 7 square km. The impressive size of this camp qualifies it for a small city. It has unique internal services and offices. For instance, the inhabitants can benefit from their own fire department or public works office. In its first years, it counted not more than 39 buildings. All of them are still available today, in some sort of a living museum. They were designed by one of the greatest architects of those times - Jarvis Hunt. One of the most important such buildings is Building 1. It was built in 1911 from red bricks only and hosts a very tall clocktower. History The initial history of Great Lakes Training Center dates back to 1905, when the USA president of those times - Theodore Roosevelt - accepted the idea of a new base. Many people, including superiors, were quite surprised by this decision. No one saw a US Navy base built so far from the ocean. At the same time, the idea was proven to belong to a genius. The time proved that training sailors and troops before actually going on a ship was excellent. Before those times, the enlisted troops were sent directly on the boat. That is when the actual training began, as they were taught underway. The base was open in 1911 with the first recruit joining two days later. The first class of 300 soldiers was applauded by the base superiors and over 10000 civilians when they graduated. During World War I, the base managed to train over 125000 sailors, while others were constantly building new facilities and improving the current ones. Between the two world wars, the base activity was almost null. The recruiting center went inactive and shut down in the end. As World War II began, the base managed to train and prepare for war over 100000 soldiers in less than a year. Between the Pearl Harbor attack and the surrender of the Empire of Japan, over a million sailors went through the training centers of Great Lakes Training Center Illinois. Similar impressive numbers resulted for the upcoming wars led by the United States of America as well. Units Among plenty of tenant and associate units, the most important units that inhabit the base are the Recruit Training Command and the Training Support Center, with its six centers and about 20 different courses and classes. Housing Housing for students is automatically dealt with by the US Navy once they are enlisted. The superiors must fill up an application on site. The off site housing system is privatized. Great Lakes Naval Training Center, 1913 The largest single training facility for the U.S. Navy is a thousand miles from the nearest ocean. Great Lakes Naval Training Station, located in North Chicago, formally opened in 1911 on land donated by the Merchants Club of Chicago. It was a product of the expansive nationalism of the era following the Spanish-American War, as well as aggressive self-promotion by Chicago businessmen and Illinois politicians. Ideally located at the nation's rail hub and near its population center, the camp gained great significance during World War I, but reached its nadir when it was closed to new trainees between 1933 and 1935. Within a month after Pearl Harbor, the navy announced that a \$33-million expansion would increase its recruit capacity from 10,000 to 45,000; by the end of 1942 75,000 were on base. During the course of World War II, Great Lakes supplied about a million men, just over a third of all personnel who served in the U.S. Navy. With the Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee interurban and Chicago & North Western stations adjacent to the base, sailors had ready access to Chicago's recreational opportunities. African American seamen were trained at a base-within-a-base, Camp Robert Smalls, which was named for a Civil War hero and former slave. The segregated facility was hailed in its time as a major advance because it represented the first genuine training camp opportunity for African Americans. While many of those who passed through Camp Smalls were relegated to noncombat roles, in 1944 a group of African Americans nicknamed the Golden Thirteen became the first to enter the regular officer candidate school and receive commissions as ensigns. Although scaled down after victory in 1945, Great Lakes remained an important naval facility and expanded again during the Korean War. By the late 1980s, however, it became the target of budget cutters who criticized its freshwater location. The number of recruits on base dropped to 18,000. In 1993, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission instead decided that economy lay in centralization at Great Lakes. By 1997 the recruit ranks reached 50,000. Not only did Great Lakes grow, but it marked two other milestones. In 1992 Rear Adm. Mack Gaston became the first African American commander of the base, and two years later, it began training women for the first time in its 83-year history. Perry R. Duis Bibliography Duis, Perry, and Scott LaFrance. We've Got a Job to Do: Chicagoans and World War II. 1992. Ebner, Michael. Creating Chicago's North Shore: A Suburban History. 1988.

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