



# The Ohio Transportation Trail

*Where America Gets Moving*



**“Ohio has been the gateway  
of the nation.”**

-James A. Garfield, Ohio-born U.S.  
President

Visionary Sponsor  
**cenovus**  
ENERGY



Plan your traveling experience today:  
[america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail](http://america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail)

# Get Moving

Connect to your traveling side while exploring more than 80 sites that celebrate Ohio's contributions to transportation!

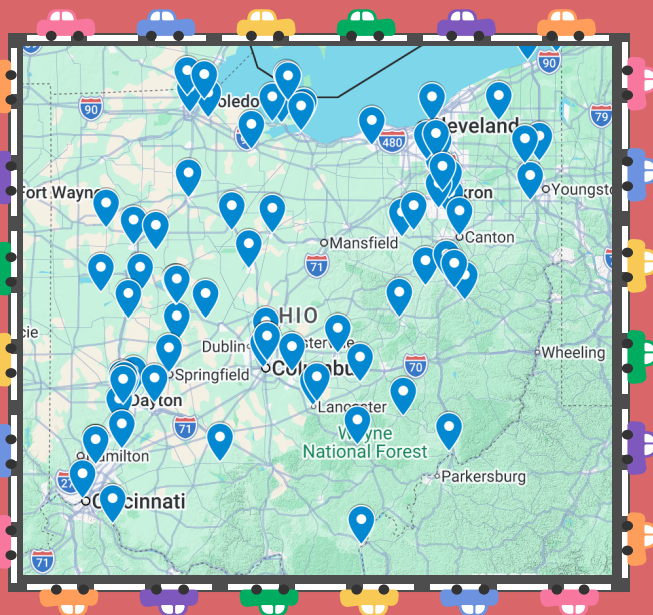


OHIO TRAILS & TALES



TRANSPORTATION

AMERICA 250-OHIO PROGRAM



## Ways to Experience the Trail

Take a **multi-media approach** by visiting all the sites in a particular region.

Or, **tour based on the transportation medium** (or theme), such as air, rail, road, and water. Use the online map to filter by theme, or use this document as your guide!

[america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail/](http://america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail/)

The Ohio Transportation Trail is part of an America 250-Ohio program celebrating Ohio's incredible stories through driving trails.





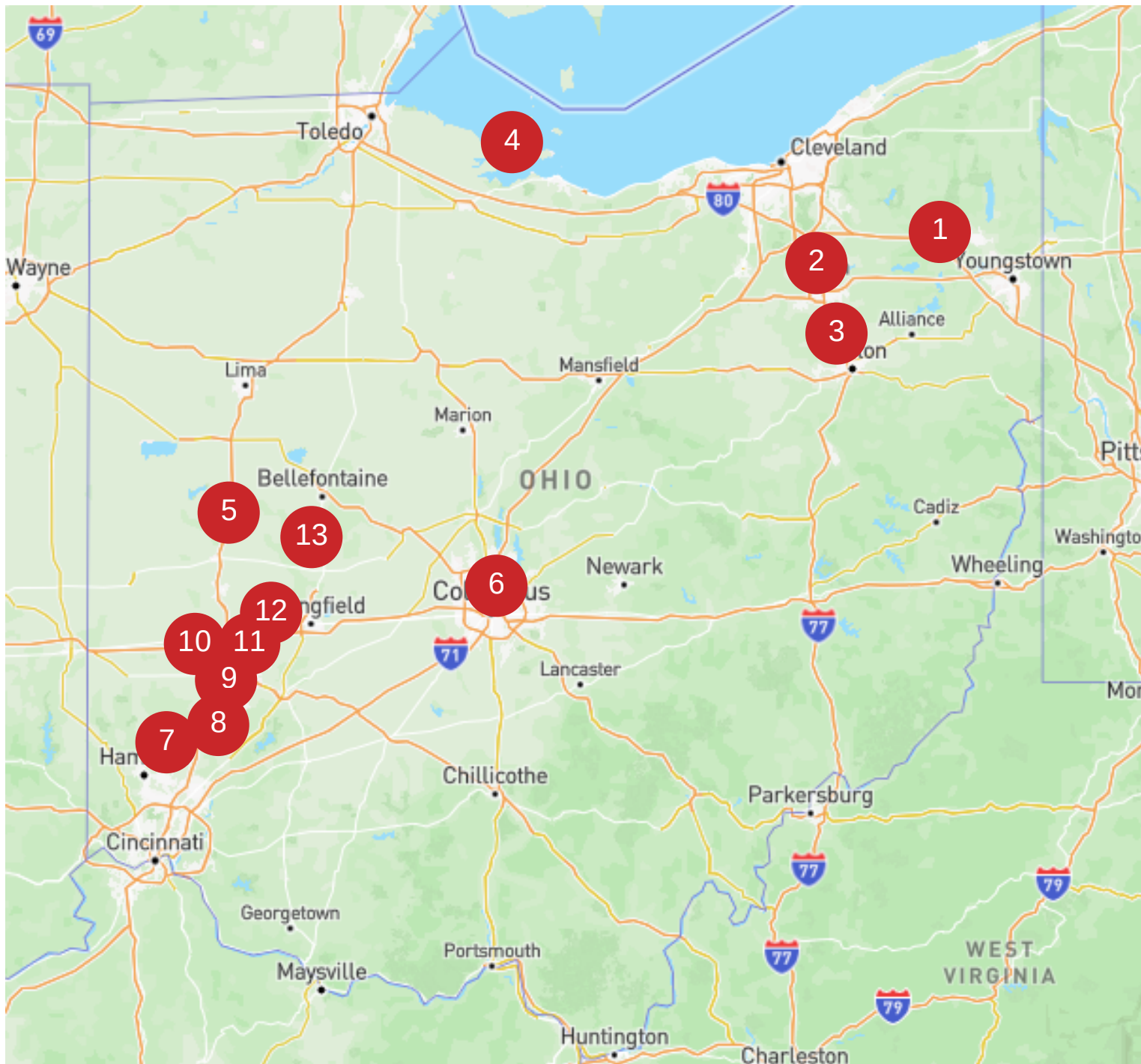
# Air

planes, inventors, flying experiences



Ohio's aviation breakthroughs came from experimentation and nerve. In Dayton, Wilbur and Orville Wright kept testing, crashing, rebuilding, and refining until human flight became real. Across the state, inventors, engineers, pilots, and manufacturers kept pushing aviation toward dreams, from military technology to space-age achievement. Ohio did not just witness the story of flight. It helped write it.

*Please confirm days and hours of operation, as some sites have limited access. You may also want to plan visits around demonstrations, special events, lectures and hands-on workshops, so please refer to each site's website for information.*



Map provides general location and should not be used for navigational purposes. Visit the Ohio Transportation Trail website for more information and mapping.

[america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail/](http://america250-ohio.org/ohio-transportation-trail/)



**Air**

planes, inventors, flying experiences



## Northeast

### 1 Ernie Hall Aviation Museum

Ernie Hall taught thousands of pilots and built his own plane at 19 years old. Hall was involved with aviation for over 50 years locally and nationally. When he passed, he held the record for the longest continuously operating flight instructor in the world. The museum features aviation memorabilia, including fabric from the *Red Baron*, personal letters between Ernie Hall and Orville Wright, and plane engines.

4033 N. River Rd., Warren

[erniehallaviationmuseum.org](http://erniehallaviationmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Trumbull County Tourism Bureau](#)

### 2 Akron History Center

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company has contributed to aviation exploration for more than a century. Akron was the center of lighter-than-air construction during World War I, making military airships and balloons. The "Akron Innovation" discusses Akron's role in aviation and air travel, and the "Lighter than Air" exhibit showcases Akron's role in creating airships for the Navy and blimps.

172 S. Main St., Akron

[akronhistorycenter.org](http://akronhistorycenter.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 3 MAPS Air Museum

This former Ohio Air Guard hangar serves as the center of aviation history for Northeast Ohio. More than 60 aircrafts and 100 artifacts are on display from all eras of American history. See the first mono-winged glider aircraft, which was designed by local farmer William H. Martin, who holds two patents regarding early aviation.

2260 International Pkwy., North Canton

[mapsairmuseum.org](http://mapsairmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

## Northwest

### 4 Liberty Aviation Museum

Located at the Erie-Ottawa Airport, this museum showcases vintage and WWII-era aircrafts, including the Ford Tri-Motor Tin Goose, the world's first mass-produced commercial plane. Hear the story of Tuskegee Airman Harold Brown, who retired to Port Clinton. Finish your visit at the Tin Goose Diner, a working-class diner located on the museum's property.

3515 E. State St., Port Clinton

[libertyaviationmuseum.org](http://libertyaviationmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

### 5 Wallace Family Learning & Innovation Center

Fly one of five missions on an interactive computer game featuring the plane that Shelby County natives Edward and Milton Korn built in 1812. Edward and Milton were part of the first water landing and air mail delivery, and they helped train pilots for WWII. The gallery "Onward and Upward" features their stories with interactive aspects highlighting these early aviation pioneers.

115 E. North St., Sidney

[shelbycountyhistory.org/learningcenter](http://shelbycountyhistory.org/learningcenter)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Sidney Visitors Bureau](#)

## Central

### 6 The Ohio State University Airport

Since 1917, The Ohio State University has advanced the aeronautics field. Thousands of pilots have trained at the university, and it still serves as an important teaching and research laboratory. Explore the timeline wall to learn the vast history of the airport and Ohio's aviation heritage, and see unique aviation artwork in the gallery. No trip is complete without snapping a photo with Barnstormer Brutus Buckeye and exploring the vibrant terminal.

2160 W. Case Rd., Columbus

[osuairport.org](http://osuairport.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Experience Columbus](#)

## Southwest

### 7 Butler County Warbirds

The museum shares the story of Butler County's veterans and is located in Middletown's historic city hangar. Learn the stories through newspapers, uniforms, interactive experiences, and over 1,800 artifacts. Become a cadet for the day with enrollment in ground school and two hours of flight time in a WWII vintage plane.

2301 Wedekind Dr., Middletown

[bcwarbirds.com](http://bcwarbirds.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Travel Butler County](#)

### 8 Wright B Flyer

The Wright Brothers produced more than 75 Wright "B" Flyers, the first aircraft type to go into mass production. These planes taught civilians and the military to fly. The museum is a working hangar with two look-a-like Model B aircrafts that often take flight, and it is dedicated to sharing the story of the planes and their production.

10550 N. Springboro Pike, Miamisburg

[wright-b-flyer.org](http://wright-b-flyer.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

### 9 Carillon Historical Park

Carillon Historical Park is home to the Wright Brothers National Museum. The 1905 Wright Flyer III, the only airplane designated as a National Historic Landmark, is on display at the museum. This plane is Ohio's official state plane and viewed as the Wright Brothers' most important aircraft. Other artifacts include bicycles built by the Wright Brothers, Wilbur's traveling bag, and Orville's toolbox.

1000 Carillon Blvd., Dayton

[daytonhistory.org](http://daytonhistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)





**Air**

planes, inventors, flying experiences



#### 10 Aviation Trail Visitor Center

The Aviation Trail Visitor Center features exhibits highlighting the Wright Brothers's bicycles, airplanes, and print shop. The Visitor Center and Wright Cycle Shop are housed in the same building where the brothers once worked. The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum is located on the second floor of the Visitor Center and highlights the story of the parachute through many interactive displays.

22 S. Williams St., Dayton

[aviationtrailinc.org/visitorcenter](http://aviationtrailinc.org/visitorcenter)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

#### 11 National Aviation Hall of Fame

From the Wright Brothers' first powered flight to military combat airplanes, these exhibits highlight how Ohio transformed the movement of people and goods worldwide. Learn the stories of Eddie Rickenbacker, Warren Grimes, Frank Lahm, and more aviation leaders. Be sure to step into the aircraft carrier experience, where you can "land" a plane on a carrier deck.

1100 Spaatz St., Dayton

[nationalaviation.org](http://nationalaviation.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

#### 12 Wright Memorial/Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center

Visit the site where the Wright Brothers tested and perfected their early aircraft, leading to the development of the 1905 *Wright Flyer III*. At this field, they built their skills as pilots, started a flying school, and broke early aviation records. The Interpretive Center on site shares the story of the Wright Brothers and the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and is home to the 17-foot Wright Memorial.

2380 Memorial Rd., Dayton

[nps.gov/daav](http://nps.gov/daav)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

#### 13 The Grimes Flying Lab

Warren G. Grimes invented aviation lighting because of his dedication to making flight safer at night. See a Beech 18 that served the Air Force as the C-45, a valuable tool to test and evaluate aircraft exterior lighting systems under various flying conditions. The Grimes legacy lives on today through the Honeywell Corporation who continues to design and develop lighting systems for aviation.

1636 N. Main St., Urbana

[n8640e.wixsite.com/grimesflyinglab](http://n8640e.wixsite.com/grimesflyinglab)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Champaign County Visitors Bureau](#)





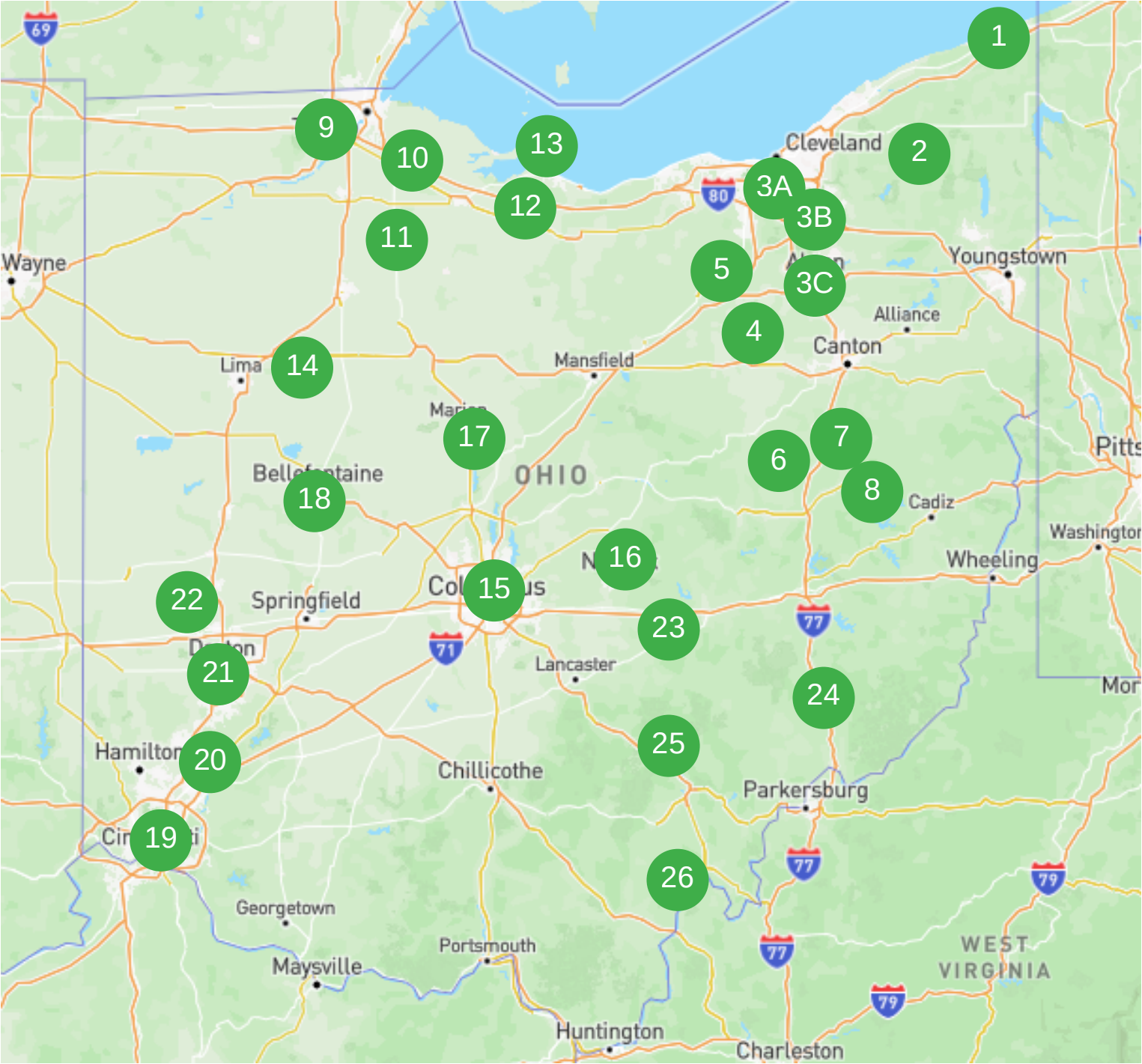
# Rail

depots, interurban railway, train excursions



Ohio's rail legacy runs on endurance. Railroads transformed how people and products moved, tying Ohio's farms, factories, and cities to the rest of the nation. Stations welcomed travelers, freight yards powered economies, and steel rails reshaped the landscape itself. Ohio's railroad story is one of connection.

*Please confirm days and hours of operation, as some sites have limited access. You may also want to plan visits around readings, lectures and workshops, so please refer to each site's website for information.*





# Rail

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## Northeast

### 1 Conneaut Historical Railroad Museum

Housed in a building originally constructed for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad in 1900, the Conneaut Historical Railroad Museum was a major repair facility for the Nickel Plate Road's steam locomotives. See the steam locomotive number 755, a hopper car, and a caboose outside the museum, creating the museum's "train." The station platform includes additional displays and places to sit and watch trains pass daily on the nearby CSX tracks.

342 Depot St., Conneaut

[conneautohio.gov/abouts/things-to-do/conneaut\\_railroad\\_museum/index](http://conneautohio.gov/abouts/things-to-do/conneaut_railroad_museum/index)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Ashtabula County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 2 Corner Field Model Railroad Museum

This museum has more than 7,000 feet of track, 4,500 buildings, hundreds of freight cars, and 250+ types of engines, including steam, diesel, and electric motors. The railroad is displayed in a freelance style with engines from the 1940s to the modern era. Trains on display include a TW TrainWorx Classic Series – Denver Union Station.

16720 Pioneer Rd., Middlefield

[cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com](http://cornerfieldmodelrailroadmuseumandhobby.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Geauga](#)

### 3 Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad

The evolution from canal to railroad in northeast Ohio is highlighted while riding on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad. The CVSR preserves the legacy of railroads transporting goods and supporting industry through rail equipment and interpretive storytelling. Themed rides included scenic tours, food tours, and game tours while transporting riders through the moving landscape, featuring canal locks, river bends, and historic rail corridors.

3A: 7900 Old Rockside Dr., Independence

3B: 1630 Mill St. W., Peninsula

3C: 27 Ridge St., Akron

[cvsr.org](http://cvsr.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Cleveland](#) and [Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 4 Orrville Union Depot Museum

This former Pennsylvania Railroad depot and signal tower showcase Orrville's railroad history. The freight office contains several cabinets of railroad artifacts on display, and the baggage room is used for work projects. The interlocking tower is one of few to be preserved, showing where train movements were controlled. There are three operating trains on site and multiple motor cars and rail cars.

145 Depot St., Orrville

[orvillerrailroad.com](http://orvillerrailroad.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 5 Northern Ohio Railroad Museum

Sitting on a two-mile section of the historic Cleveland, Southwestern, & Columbus Railway right-of-way, the museum collects, preserves, restores, displays, and operates streetcars and railway equipment for education and entertainment. Over 40 historic streetcars, interurban cars, and other electrically powered railway equipment are featured, including a 1914 era streetcar and a 1954 rapid transit car.

5515 Buffham Rd., Seville

[northernohiorailwaymuseum.org](http://northernohiorailwaymuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Medina County](#)

### 6 Ernest Warther Museum & Gardens

Ernest Warther hand-carved the exhibits "Evolution of Steam Engine" and "Great Events in American Steam" history. There are over sixty wood pieces on display that depict different steam engines and provide a detailed glance into progress and history. One of the most popular works of art on site is a carving of the Lincoln Funeral Train. There are also an original Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph office and B&O caboose on site, bringing railroad history to life.

331 Karl Ave., Dover

[warthermuseum.com](http://warthermuseum.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

### 7 Age of Steam Roundhouse Museum

See the steam locomotive collection that belonged to Jerry Jacobson who once owned the Ohio Central Railroad. These locomotives range are from the late 1800s to the mid 1900s and vary in size from 23 to 450 tons. They are housed in an 18-stall roundhouse featuring artifacts to help showcase the importance of railroads. The Ohio Central Railroad drew countless tourists to Ohio's Amish country and was a dependable local freight trade for business.

213 Smokey Lane Rd. SW., Sugarcreek

[ageofsteamroundhouse.org](http://ageofsteamroundhouse.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

### 8 Dennison Railroad Depot Museum

The Dennison Railroad Depot Museum shares the story of how Dennison had the most complete railroad shops and yards in the country at the turn of the 20th century, boasting 40 acres of shops, 21 passenger trains and 21 freight trains a day, and over 3,000 railroad employees. The restored depot houses a museum, restaurant, bed and breakfast, and theater, transporting visitors back to Dreamsville, USA, a nickname given to Dennison during the 20th century.

400 Center St., Dennison

[dennisondepot.org](http://dennisondepot.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

## Northwest

### 9 Wolcott Heritage Center

The Clover Leaf Depot once served as a vital stop on the Clover Leaf Railroad and reflects how trains connected Maumee to regional markets, industries, and people. Rail transportation shaped local growth and positioned Maumee as an important link in northwest Ohio's transportation network. The restored depot features a historically accurate ticket office, touch-friendly equipment, and a fully-restored train caboose and box car.

1035 River Rd., Maumee

[wolcotthouse.org](http://wolcotthouse.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Toledo](#)





## Rail

depots, interurban railway, train excursions



### 10 Elmore Train Depot & Museum

The Toledo, Norwalk, & Cleveland Railroad Co. Line started running in September 1852, traveling from Toledo to Norwalk via Elmore, Fremont, Bellevue, and Monroeville. The train depot has been turned into this museum, which is specifically located in the train freight room. Memorabilia from historic Elmore's train history is on display, and the nearby Heckman Cabins provides information on the early settlers' interactions with the railroads.

353 Ottawa St., Elmore

[sites.google.com/view/elmoreohiohistoricalsociety](https://sites.google.com/view/elmoreohiohistoricalsociety)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

### 11 Fostoria Iron Triangle Rail Park

Fostoria has three double-track mainline diamonds that intersect in a half-mile area, making it a railroad hotspot. The rail park is within these diamonds. These tracks are still actively used by freight trains who are dispatched by CSX or Norfolk Southern. There is no schedule, but visitors can sit on the platform area to view trains as they pass. A 1966 Baltimore & Ohio I-18 Caboose is on display to explore.

499 S. Poplar St., Fostoria

[fostoriairontriangle.com](http://fostoriairontriangle.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Seneca County](#)

### 12 Mad River NKP Railroad Museum

The Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum showcases how railroads shaped American transportation, from early lines to the Nickel Plate Road era. Guests can climb into locomotives and train cars to step onto history. Equipment on display includes the Nickel Plate Road 757, a Railway Post Office car, and a Silver Dome passenger car. Artifacts and specialty equipment help illustrate evolving technology, safety, and communication that moved people and freight.

253 Southwest St., Bellevue

[madrivermuseum.org](http://madrivermuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Sandusky County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 13 Cedar Point & Lake Erie Railroad

Ride one of the oldest operating rides at Cedar Point, a 3-ft narrow-gauge heritage railroad. Four operating steam locomotives bring visitors around the park, with stops at two different stations: the Main Station and the Frontier Town Station. All the locomotives on site, including one that is non-operational, are historic and built for a variety of uses before ending up at the park. Each engine uses coal to move around Cedar Point. Park admission and parking fee is required.

1 Cedar Point Dr., Sandusky

[sixflags.com/cedarpoint](http://sixflags.com/cedarpoint)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

### 14 Harrod Railroad Heritage Park

Without the railroads, Harrod would not exist. It brought people, merchants, livestock, and supplies to local residents and served as an outlet for town businesses. In 1882, the Chicago & Atlantic Railroad Company built a depot in town that served the area for nearly 100 years. See a restored caboose that served the maintenance pool in Lima and visit the "Little Red Building," a sawmill that traded along the railroad.

120 W. 2nd St., Harrod

[auglaizetownshiphistoricalociety.com/our-parks/railroadpark](http://auglaizetownshiphistoricalociety.com/our-parks/railroadpark)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Greater Lima](#)

## Central

### 15 Ohio Railway Museum

The Ohio Railway Museum is one of the nation's oldest railroad museums. It preserves and showcases rail history through an impressive collection of steam, electric, and diesel equipment. See the E2a Pacific No. 578, the only surviving engine of its kind in the US, which once served passengers at Union Station in Columbus, and explore one of the city's last remaining streetcars from the interurban streetcar era.

990 Proprietors Rd., Worthington

[ohiorailwaymuseum.org](http://ohiorailwaymuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Experience Columbus](#)

### 16 The Works: Art, History, & Technology

Newark's location in east-central Ohio led it to become a railroad hub for factories and industries. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad transported people and goods throughout the country. Because of the influx of population in the area, interurban rail travel became popular in the early 1900s. Newark had multiple interurban routes that allowed people to travel locally quickly, and a restored car is on display in the courtyard

55 S. 1st St., Newark

[attheworks.org](http://attheworks.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Explore Licking County](#)

### 17 Logan County Transportation Museum

The Logan County Transportation Museum is shaped to be reminiscent of the Big Four Railroad Roundhouse that served Bellefontaine from the 1890s-1970s. Each of the five bays inside tells an aspect of transportation history in Logan County and the country. The Railroad Bay features a railroad speeder, telegrapher desk, and a shop whistle from the Big Four Shops. A restored caboose is seen behind the museum to add to the train history told on site.

521 E. Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine

[loganhistory.org](http://loganhistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Logan County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 18 Marion Union Station

This former passenger railroad station served several train lines, including the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, & St. Louis Railway, and the Erie Railroad. Because the lines intersected at this station, it was a popular transfer hub. The museum showcases a collection of memorabilia and the Atlantic Crossing Tower that once controlled the main switching facility. The tracks still operate and you'll see 60+ trains pass through each day.

532 W. Center St., Marion

[marionmodelrailroadclub.org](http://marionmodelrailroadclub.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Marion Ohio](#)





## Rail

depots, interurban railway, train excursions



### Southwest

#### 19 Cincinnati Museum Center

Housed in the historic Union Terminal, the Cincinnati Museum Center tells the story of transportation in the region. Opened in 1933, Union Terminal is one of the last grand Art Deco train stations built in the United States. Explore the architectural history and the story of commerce and travel, including overlooks of an active railyard and original control tower. Exhibits highlight how trains and boats shaped Cincinnati's growth, immigration, industry, and innovation.

1301 Western Ave., Cincinnati

[cincymuseum.org](http://cincymuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Cincy](#)

#### 20 Lebanon Mason & Monroe Railroad

The Lebanon Mason & Monroe Railroad operates from Historic Downtown Lebanon and offers scenic train rides through southwestern Ohio.

Passengers learn about local history and railroad operations while riding a diesel locomotive. Family-friendly themed events and rides are offered year-round, with rides to meet the Easter Bunny, Christmas rides, and the Pumpkin Patch Express.

16 E. South St., Lebanon

[lebanonrr.com](http://lebanonrr.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Warren County Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

#### 21 Carillon Historical Park

The James F. Dicke Family Transportation Center houses Carillon's public transportation collection. The building is designed to resemble both a train station and a roundhouse. Walk through multiple cars, including the Barney & Smith parlor rail car and city rail car. See the 1835 Baltimore & Ohio No. 1, John Quincy Adams, the oldest surviving American-built locomotive. Be sure to take a ride on Carillon's railroad before you leave.

1000 Carillon Blvd., Dayton

[daytonhistory.org](http://daytonhistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

#### 22 BF Tower & the Bradford Ohio Railroad Museum

Bradford was a junction on the Pennsylvania Railroad and cemented itself as a town because of the railroad. Visit the BF Tower and learn how employees controlled the flow of trains through town, through oral histories and exhibits. Video displays of the train turntable in the museum show how intricate the work was at the depot. The tower and turntable worked together to help set the standard for the railroad industry.

200 N. Miami Ave., Bradford

[bradfordrrmuseum.org](http://bradfordrrmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau](#)

### Southeast

#### 23 Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad

The Zanesville & Western Scenic Railroad hosts themed train excursions for the whole family. Themes include hobo camp, Santa train, wine tasting, dog daze of summer, pumpkin train, train robbery, and more. Train rides are 40 minutes, and you will see scenic woods and farmlands while you travel. Some rides offer outside seating, for the best views during the ride.

5700 SR-204, Mt. Perry

[zwsr.org](http://zwsr.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Zanesville-Muskingum County](#)

#### 24 Caldwell B Z & C Caboose #33

Caboose #33 stands as a tangible link to Caldwell's railroad era. The caboose offers an up-close look at the equipment that once carried crews across southeastern Ohio's rugged rail lines. #33 preserves the daily work, travel, and progress that shaped Ohio's transportation history. Learn the story of the Bellaire, Zanesville, & Cincinnati Railway and its impact on Noble County while exploring the caboose's exterior and restored features. 18448-18490 Frostyville Rd., Caldwell

[visitsnoblecountyohio.com](http://visitsnoblecountyohio.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Noble County](#)

#### 25 Hocking Valley Scenic Railway

The Hocking Valley Scenic Railway operates vintage railroad equipment on a 12-mile section of track that was once part of the Hocking Valley Railway, the largest railroad entirely within Ohio. Both steam and diesel engines offer tours on the line, with themes including food, living history, holiday, and scenic tours.

33 Canal St., Nelsonville

[hvsry.org](http://hvsry.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Athens County](#)

#### 26 Gallipolis Railroad Freight Station Museum

The Gallipolis Railroad Freight Station served as a busy freight depot for the Chesapeake & Ohio and the Baltimore & Ohio railroads. Discover the vital role railroads played in the development of the local area and a collection of memorabilia relating to southeastern Ohio. Various rail cars are on display in the reconstructed freight yard and have audio-visual equipment allowing on-board activities to learn how the railroads function. 918 Third Ave., Gallipolis

[gallipolisrailroad.org](http://gallipolisrailroad.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Gallia County](#)





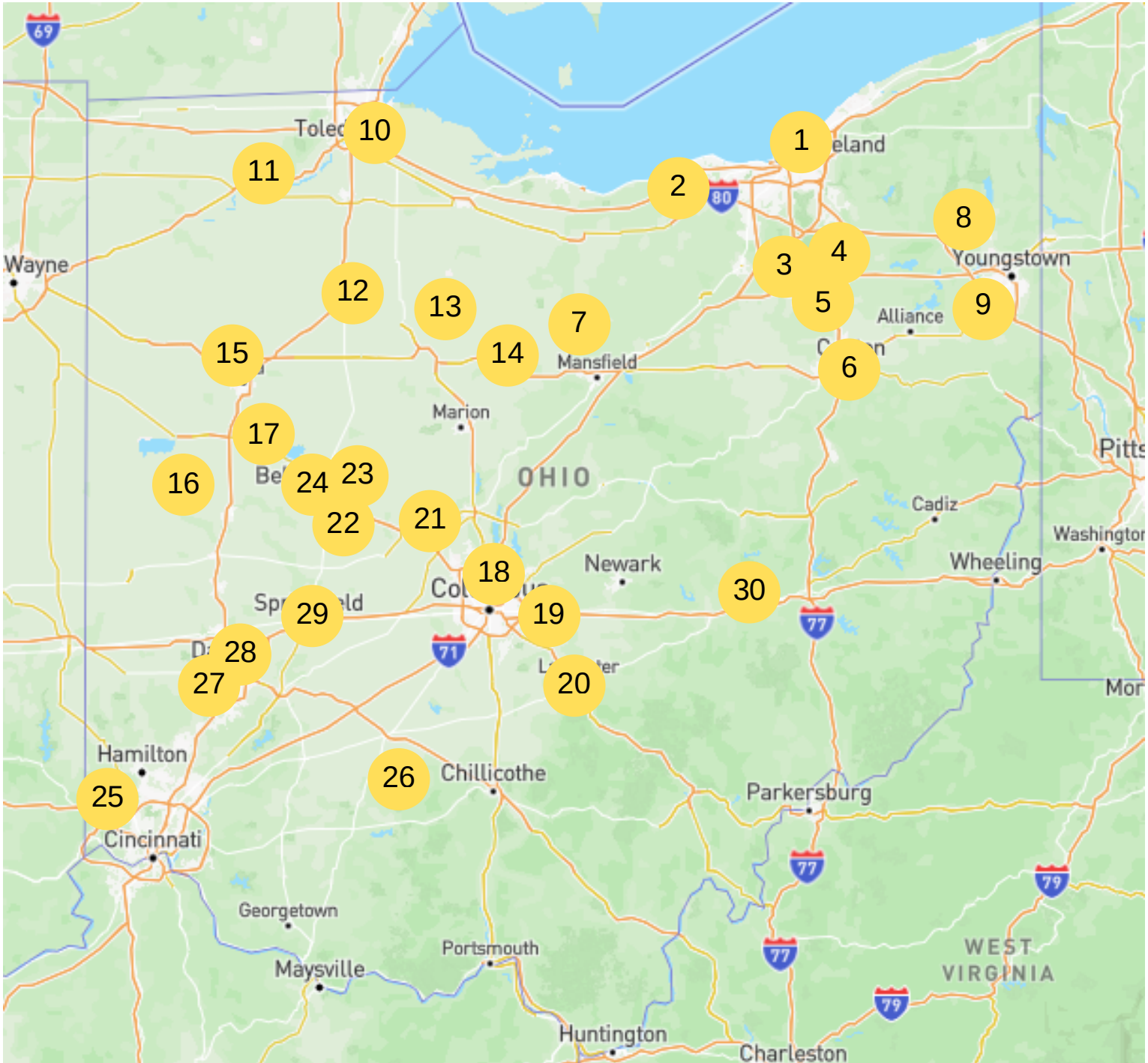
# Road

automobiles, motorcycles, soap box derby



Ohio's road history is paved with persistence. Early routes, turnpikes, and highways stitched together communities, commerce, and culture across the state. As automobiles changed American life, Ohio embraced the open road with engineering, industry, and roadside innovation that made travel easier and farther-reaching. Roads helped define modern Ohio.

*Please confirm days and hours of operation, as some sites have limited access. Plan to take in some live music during your tour by clicking on the visitor information for each listing. Many of these visitors bureau sites have events calendars featuring what's happening at listening rooms, concert venues, theatres, local wineries, etc.*



Map provides general location and should not be used for navigational purposes. Visit the Ohio Transportation Trail website for more information and mapping.



# Road

automobiles, motorcycles, soap box derby



## Northeast

### 1 Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum

See over 30 years of early automotive history displayed through cars, from a 1900 Benz Duc Victoria to a 1932 Cadillac 355 B Sport Phaeton. There are over 170 antique automobiles on exhibit throughout the museum, and 21 non-car vehicles, including motorcycles, bicycles, and boats. You'll even see three carriages and sleighs during your visit. 10825 East Blvd., Cleveland

[wrhs.org/plan-visit/places-to-visit/crawford-auto-aviation](http://wrhs.org/plan-visit/places-to-visit/crawford-auto-aviation)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Cleveland](#)

### 2 The Hickories Museum

The Hickories Museum reflects Arthur Garford's influential career as an inventor and entrepreneur, from the padded bicycle seat to early automobiles developed with the Studebaker Company. Garford funded the construction of his home from the proceeds he collected from inventing and selling the padded bicycle seat. Exhibits highlight the Garford Manufacturing Company with many transportation artifacts. 509 Washington Ave., Elyria

[lchs.org](http://lchs.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Lorain County Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 3 Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

F.A. Seiberling, the co-founder of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, had this estate built for his family in the early 1910s. The house museum centers stories in specific rooms, so visit the Carriage House to learn about the 10-vehicle garage, complete with two electric cars that belonged to Seiberling's daughter. The Mechanic's Shop is also located in the Carriage House, which gives a glimpse into Seiberling's work with cars, beyond just tires.

714 N. Portage Path, Akron

[stanhywet.org](http://stanhywet.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 4 Akron History Center

As the "Rubber Capital of the World," it's no surprise that Akron has shaped automobile history. The "Central Tire" exhibit discusses the development of tires, the companies that shaped the rubber and tire industry, and the breaking of the land speed record. The Goodyear Tire display shares Akron's role in the production of racing tires and the story of the Goodyear Tire Company.

172 S. Main St., Akron

[akronhistorycenter.org](http://akronhistorycenter.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 5 Soap Box Derby Hall of Fame

Soap Box Derby began in 1934 to inspire new generations of automotive champions. Since it's first class in 1997, 92 influential faces in Soap Box Derby have been enshrined in the Hall of Fame. One of the first cars to race in an event has become the emblem of the Hall of Fame and is on display inside, along with many other cars, including one used in a cheating scandal. The track hosts the National Championship every year, which is a great time to visit.

789 Derby Downs Dr., Akron

[soapboxderby.org](http://soapboxderby.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 6 Canton Classic Car Museum

This museum is located only four blocks from the Lincoln Highway, the first transcontinental highway designed expressly for automobiles. Northeast Ohio was the nation's largest producer of cars in the early years of motoring, with seven makes of automobiles in Canton alone. Vehicles on display include a 1922 Holmes, a 1932 Lincoln Murphy Roadster – one of only five made, and a 1937 Studebaker President Armored police car.

123 Sixth St. SW., Canton

[cantonclassiccar.org](http://cantonclassiccar.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Canton](#)

### 7 Shelby Bicycle Museum

This brand-new museum showcases Shelby's bicycle history, which began in the late 1800s. The museum works to connect the world of bicycles with a broader history, so guests can make connections to history they recognize while they explore exhibits. You're greeted by a life-size photo of Clarence "Whippet" Wagner, who founded the Shelby Cycle Company.

31 Mack Ave., Shelby

[shelbycyclehistory.org](http://shelbycyclehistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Mansfield](#)

### 8 TP Tools Auto Collection Museum

Experience classic cars of years gone by, from 1917 to modern day. The cars show the history and evolution the automotive industry, each depicting a different time and period in American history. The most famous car on display is a 1940 Cadillac, which served in the Secret Service from FDR to JFK. See different store themes you should have experienced in the 1950s, including a replica diner and soda bar.

7075 State Route 446, Canfield

[tpcarcollection.com](http://tpcarcollection.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Explore Mahoning](#)

### 9 National Packard Museum

Visit the birthplace of Packard, prized worldwide for luxury, performance, and reliability. From the steering wheel to H-pattern standard transmission, Packard was a trailblazer in automotive technology. More than two dozen significant Packard vehicles built between 1900 and 1956 are on display, including the second oldest Packard in existence – the 1900 Model B. Learn about the Packard Company and the Packard family's innovative success.

1899 Mahoning Ave. NW., Warren

[packardmuseum.org](http://packardmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Trumbull County Tourism Bureau](#)





# Road

automobiles, motorcycles, soap box derby



## Northwest

### 10 Millbury Classic Cars & Trucks Museum

One hundred cars and trucks are on display for guests to see, including an exhibit with Chevy Trucks lined up each year from 1954 to 1972. Memorabilia and signs from 1940 to 2025 are hung for viewing. Showing vehicles and accessories over the course of nearly a decade shows how transportation changed over time, and the museum is set up to feel like you step back in time when exploring the older stories.

26929 Cummings Rd., Millbury

[facebook.com/people/millbury-classics](https://facebook.com/people/millbury-classics)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Wood County Tourism](#)

### 11 Napoleon Harley Davidson Marv's Museum

This museum at a Harley Davidson dealership showcases nine 1962 Harley-Davidson motorcycles that were purchased and restored over the past 40 years. Each motorcycle is displayed in its own garage, bringing guests into the world of restoration. The museum is full of various motorcycle memorabilia the owner collected throughout his life.

862 American Rd., Napoleon

[h-dsales.com/learn-more-about-museum](https://h-dsales.com/learn-more-about-museum)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Henry County Chamber of Commerce](#)

### 12 Hancock Historical Museum

The Hancock Historical Museum is home to the Marathon Petroleum Corporation Energy and Transportation Annex, a building dedicated to sharing Findlay and Hancock County's role in the gas boom and the oil industry. The museum shares the histories of the companies that made an impact in all facets of transportation. See three Grant Cars, and Adam Truck, Marathon tankers while learning about local companies.

422 S. Sandusky St., Findlay

[hancockhistoricalmuseum.org](https://hancockhistoricalmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Findlay](#)

### 13 Overland Inn

The Scioto-Sandusky Trail was well-traveled by Indigenous groups until it was expanded during the War of 1812 to accommodate General William Henry Harrison. By the time the Overland Inn was built in 1829, it had evolved into a major stagecoach route. The inn is now displayed as a museum, with recreations of the bedrooms, lady's parlor, men's smoke room, and a non-functioning bar.

283 State Highway 53 N., McCutchensville

[wyandothistory.org](https://wyandothistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Wyandot County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 14 Hank's Garage

Located along the historic Lincoln Highway, Hank's Garage is a family-owned museum showcasing vintage automobilia and memorabilia. See the world's largest running and driving Edsel collection under one roof and learn about Ford's Edsel division. The museum is also home to more than 1,000 vintage signs and gas pumps, and 70 children's "pedal cars." Less than 1,000 feet west of the garage stands the Hopley Monument, honoring Ohio's first state consul of the Lincoln Highway.

1780 E. Mansfield St., Bucyrus

[gotocarguys.com/hanks-garage](https://gotocarguys.com/hanks-garage)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Bucyrus](#)

### 15 Allen County Museum

Transportation has a long-standing history in Allen County, from the Conestoga Wagons that brought pioneers to the area to Ford engine made there today. The McCullough family wagon was small but held the family's belongings as everyone walked beside the wagon. The exhibit centers on Aurelia, one of the McCullough children, and works to connect her story with children who visit the museum today.

620 W. Market St., Lima

[allencountymuseum.org](https://allencountymuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Greater Lima](#)

### 16 Bicycle Museum of America

Learn the story of the bicycle from the start in 1816 to the modern day.

Over 200 bicycles are on display at one time, with 400 in storage. The Ohio Bicycles of 1890s showcases bicycles that did not join the

monopolizing American Bicycle Company. The stories of Ohioans with ties to bicycles are shared throughout the exhibits.

7 W. Monroe St., New Bremen

[bicyclemuseum.com](https://bicyclemuseum.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Greater Grand Lake Region Visitor Center](#)

### 17 Airstream Heritage Center

The Airstream Heritage Center traces the history of the iconic Airstream brand and its century-long influence on the travel and transportation industry. The center houses vintage Airstream travel trailers, interactive displays, and Airstream collectibles. Schedule a factory tour to see firsthand how the manufacturing and assembly of Airstreams create best in class trailers.

1001 W. Pike St., Jackson Center

[airstream.com/heritage-center/](https://airstream.com/heritage-center/)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Sidney Visitors Bureau](#)

## Central

### 18 Ohio History Center

The state's history museum shares the story of Ohio transportation. Discover how the National Road and advancements in steam power made travel faster and more efficient. There are multiple vehicles to explore, including a 1957 Chevy Bel Air, a 1940s Borden's Milk Delivery Wagon, and a 1919 Ohio Telephone Repair Truck. Learn about Ohio motor companies to see how they changed travel in the state.

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus

[ohiohistory.org/ohc](https://ohiohistory.org/ohc)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Experience Columbus](#)

### 19 AMA Motorcycle Hall of Fame

The Motorcycle Hall of Fame celebrates the heroes of the track, road, trails, and halls of government who have elevated the sport to new heights. Each motorcycle on display shares a unique story about a member of the Hall of Fame. Themed exhibits and over 100 historic bicycles let visitors feel the passion and better understand the technology that makes motorcycles some of the most powerful vehicles on the road today.

13515 Yarmouth Dr., Pickerington

[americanmotorcyclist.com/hall-of-fame](https://americanmotorcyclist.com/hall-of-fame)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Fairfield County](#)





## Road

automobiles, motorcycles, soap box derby



### 20 Soap Box Derby Museum

One of the only permanent Soap Box attractions in the United States, this museum dates back to the beginning of the Lancaster Soap Box Derby in 1955. Take a walk-through derby history and see how cars have evolved through time. Soap box memorabilia and photographs are on display across the museum. Plan your visit during a race to get the full soap box experience.

3060 BIS Rd., Lancaster

[lancaster.soapboxderby.org](http://lancaster.soapboxderby.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Fairfield County](#)

### 21 Honda Heritage Center

The Honda Heritage Center displays classic and modern Hondas. See the first Honda automobile sold in the U.S. and several other VIN 001 models. Learn about Honda's advancement in technology over the years, where the company came from, and where they are heading. Hear the story of how Marysville became Honda's home because of the pre-existing Transportation Research Center with a 7.5-mile oval test track.

24025 Honda Pkwy., Marysville

[honda.com/heritage-center](http://honda.com/heritage-center)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Union County Tourism](#)

### 22 Logan County Transportation Museum

Early road transportation and modern automobiles are branched together at the Logan County History Museum. Learn about settlers arriving on covered wagons and locally made buggies to start your visit, and end learning about current auto parts manufacturers. The "Honda of America" exhibit discusses Honda suppliers and two local Honda plants in Logan County. Learn about the special Bellefontaine streets before going outside to see them in person.

521 E. Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine

[loganhistory.org](http://loganhistory.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Logan County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 23 Oldest Concrete Street in America

Bellefontaine's Court Avenue is widely recognized as the nation's first concrete street. The road traces the evolution of transportation from muddy dirt roads to durable, all-weather travel. George Bartholomew used locally sourced materials to pave this courthouse square street, hoping to prove concrete's value for everyday traffic. The street is registered on the National Register of Historic Places.

116 S. Main St., Bellefontaine

[experiencelogancounty.com](http://experiencelogancounty.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Logan County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 24 Shortest Street in America

McKinley Street is an approximately 20-foot roadway tucked beside Bellefontaine's rail corridor. Named in honor of President William McKinley, it reflects how even small connections support the broader transportation network linking rail, road, and downtown. Interpretive signage on site tells the story of Bellefontaine's transportation history.

300 McKinley St., Bellefontaine

[experiencelogancounty.com](http://experiencelogancounty.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Logan County Visitors Bureau](#)

## Southwest

### 25 The Salty Dog Museum

Featuring an impressive collection of antique Fords and firetrucks from the early 1900s, this unique museum tells the story of the automobile like never before. See an incredible collection of Model Ts and Model As, and an array of classic cars ranging from the early 1900s to the 1970s. Ron's Machine Shop adjacent to the museum shows how classic cars are restored.

4985 Cincinnati Brookville Rd., Shandon

[saltydogmuseum.com](http://saltydogmuseum.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Travel Butler County](#)

### 26 C.R. Patterson & Sons Automobile Storyboard

C.R. Patterson & Sons was the first African American-owned automobile company and shaped early automotive production. The outdoor storyboard interprets how early automotive production shaped mobility, industry, and opportunity through historic photographs and story.

301 Jefferson St., Greenfield

[mainstreetgreenfield.com](http://mainstreetgreenfield.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Main Street Greenfield](#)

### 27 British Transportation Museum

After spending time in England during World War II, many Dayton airmen came home with a passion for British vehicles. These men came together and opened the British Transportation Museum to share this love with Ohioans. See a Peerless GT, which has an indirect connection to the luxury Peerless cars manufactured in Cleveland and a righthand drive Packard that was owned by the US ambassador to England, who was from Cincinnati.

321 Hopeland St., Dayton

[britishtransportationmuseum.org](http://britishtransportationmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

### 28 America's Packard Museum

America's Packard Museum is the largest public collection of Packard vehicles and artifacts in the USA. The Packard Company was founded in Warren and led to the emergence of automobiles in America, innovation, individualism, speed, style, and functionality. See 50 Packards on display, including vehicles used in *Boardwalk Empire* and *The Godfather pt. 1*, and one owned by Al Capone.

420 S. Ludlow St., Dayton

[americaspackardmuseum.org](http://americaspackardmuseum.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Dayton](#)

### 29 Heritage Center of Clark County

The National Road reached Springfield in 1836, connecting the fertile farmland to the east coast. Hundreds of covered wagons rolled through Springfield each week, and many travelers decided to settle in the area. See a fully restored Conestoga wagon that carried one of the earliest families to Springfield. Exhibits also feature original National Road mile markers, International Harvesters, and a model of an early covered bridge.

117 S. Fountain Ave., Springfield

[heritage.center](http://heritage.center)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Greater Springfield](#)





## Road

automobiles, motorcycles, soap box derby



### *Southeast*

#### **30 National Road & Zane Grey Museum**

Learn about U.S. Route 40, the old National Road, nicknamed “the Main Street of America.” Discover the history of the road, its construction, and its transportation – from wagons to cars. The National Road began in 1806 as the only significant land link between the east coast and western frontier to move crops, goods, and promote immigration. See a diorama of the National Road and accompanying objects to see what it was like to travel the path.

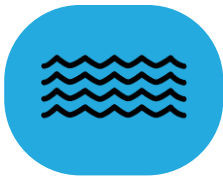
8850 East Pike, Norwich

[ohiohistory.org/nationalroad](http://ohiohistory.org/nationalroad)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Zanesville-Muskingum County](#)





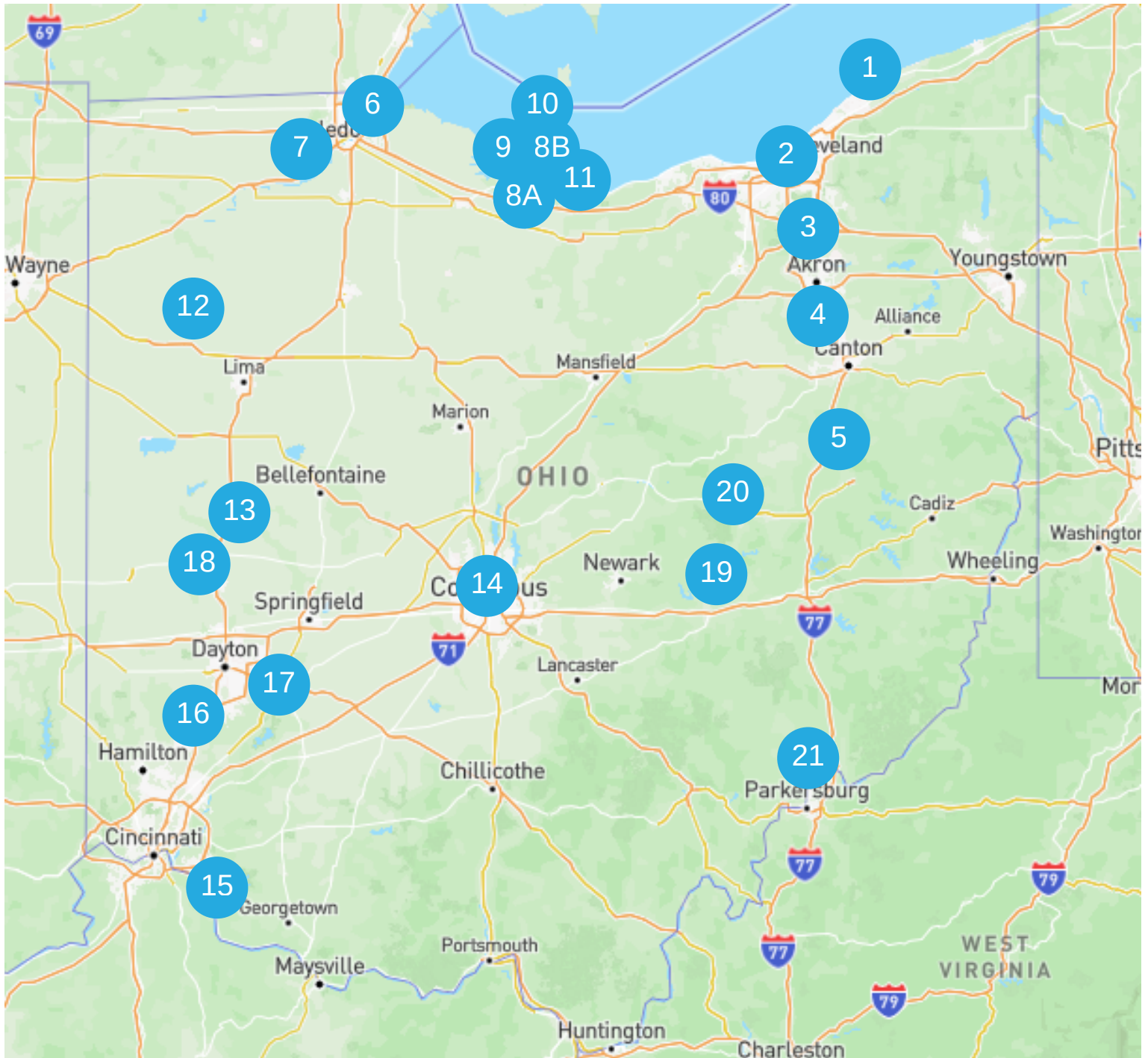
# Water

## Lake Erie, the Ohio River, canals



Ohio's waterways made movement possible long before engines and interstates. Rivers, canals, and Lake Erie routes carried trade, ideas, and people across the region, helping build the state from the shoreline inward. Ohio kept adapting those routes to meet new demands, proving that transportation innovation often begins with the path already there.

*Please confirm days and hours of operation, as some sites have limited access. You may also want to plan visits around demonstrations and workshops. Please refer to each site's website for information.*



Map provides general location and should not be used for navigational purposes. Visit the Ohio Transportation Trail website for more information and mapping.



# Water

Lake Erie, the Ohio River, canals



## Northeast

### 1 Ashtabula Maritime & Surface Transportation Museum

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Ashtabula thrived as a hub for coal and iron ore shipping, linking Great Lakes freighters to inland rail lines. The museum, housed in the former lightkeeper's home, showcases the city's role in maritime trade, rail transport, and the immigrant labor that shaped Ashtabula's identity and industrial strength. Outside the museum, see the first electrically welded steel hull ship in the world, built locally.

1071 Walnut Blvd., Ashtabula

[ashtabulamaritime.org](http://ashtabulamaritime.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Ashtabula County Visitors Bureau](#)

### 2 USS Cod Submarine Memorial

USS Cod is a WWII-era Navy submarine that represents the industrial heritage of Great Lakes manufacturing. Climb aboard and see a working periscope and a Navy torpedo built in Tiffin, Ohio in 1945. The submarine served as a naval training vessel on Lake Erie in Cleveland following World War II. Much of the steel and the five massive diesel engines aboard Cod were built in Cleveland. The USS Cod is one of the finest restored submarines in the country and the only one to feature original doorways and stairways.

1201 N. Marginal Rd., Cleveland

[usscod.org](http://usscod.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Cleveland](#)

### 3 Cuyahoga Valley National Park - Canal Exploration Center

Explore two floors of hands-on exhibits designed for both children and adults. Interact with maps and games to discover why the growing nation and Ohio depended on canals. Learn about people who lived and worked along the canals. Step into the 1800s and hear debates on who the public works project benefited and how it brought changes in immigration, jobs, and daily life.

7104 Canal Rd., Valley View

[nps.gov/cuva](http://nps.gov/cuva)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Cleveland](#)

### 4 Portage Lakes State Park

The Portage Path connects the watersheds of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers, which flow southward into the Muskingum River and eventually the Ohio River. This was the most important path for Indigenous groups as they traveled through Ohio. The Visitor Center features interactive displays to see the path from the sky and demonstrate how canal locks and dams influenced the Portage Path.

5031 Manchester Rd., Akron

[ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/portage-lakes-state-park](http://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/portage-lakes-state-park)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

### 5 Schoenbrunn Village

Schoenbrunn Village highlights the start of transportation in Ohio. Less than a mile from the Tuscarawas River, early Ohio settlers traveled the waters to reach the village. Indigenous trails connect to the river, showing how land and sea interact. See an interactive map that shows all historic trails and water routes, featuring a conversion chart to show how long travel took 250 years ago.

1984 E. High St., New Philadelphia

[ohiohistory.org/visit/browse-historical-sites/schoenbrunn-village/](http://ohiohistory.org/visit/browse-historical-sites/schoenbrunn-village/)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Tuscarawas County Convention and Visitors Bureau](#)

## Northwest

### 6 National Museum of the Great Lakes

Learn how Lake Erie shaped westward expansion and played a strategic role in the War of 1812, then explore the lighthouses and navigational tools that made travel on the lake safer. As transportation networks expanded across water and land, Ohio emerged as an industrial powerhouse, moving goods farther and faster than ever before. Don't miss the Col. James M. Schoonmaker Museum Ship and the Museum Tug Ohio—two historic Great Lakes vessels that bring the legacy of maritime travel to life.

1701 Front St., Toledo

[nmgl.org](http://nmgl.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Toledo](#)

### 7 The Canal Experience at Providence Metropark

Enjoy a 1.5-mile journey along the restored banks of the Miami & Erie Canal while hearing canal tales and passing through the original working Lock 44. First-person interpreters focus storytelling efforts on ensuring visitors understand the importance of canal transportation by creating characters from historical accounts. Make sure to visit *The Volunteer*, a mule-drawn canal boat reconstruction, and the Isaac Ludwig Mill, a working water-powered saw and gristmill.

1305 S. River Rd., Grand Rapids

[metroparktoledo.com/features-and-rentals/canal-experience](http://metroparktoledo.com/features-and-rentals/canal-experience)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Destination Toledo](#)

### 8 Jet Express

The first *Jet Express*, launched in 1989 by the Put-in-Bay Boat Line Company, transformed transit on Lake Erie as a sleek, water-jet-powered catamaran, among the first in North America. This fleet makes the 12-mile crossing from Port Clinton to Put-in-Bay in approximately 25 minutes.

Today, the fleet consists of four vessels providing fast transportation to Put-in-Bay from both Port Clinton and Sandusky, as well as service to Kelleys Island from Sandusky. Passengers can choose between climate-controlled lounges and open-air decks that offer panoramic views of the lake.

8A 3 Monroe St., Port Clinton

8B 101 W. Shoreline Dr., Sandusky

[jet-express.com](http://jet-express.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

### 9 Miller Boat Line

Islanders rely on ferryboats and airplanes to connect them to mainland services and supplies. Miller Boat Line is the largest and oldest ferry system on Lake Erie. Initially a fishing charter business, Miller Boat Line evolved into a ferry service for transporting freight, people and vehicles in the mid-1900s. Their ferryboats continue to link the islands to the mainland, offering breathtaking views of Lake Erie enroute and island experiences to enjoy on both islands.

5174 E. Water St., Port Clinton

[millerferry.com](http://millerferry.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)





# Water

Lake Erie, the Ohio River, canals



## 10 Lake Erie Islands Historical Society

Tucked in the heart of Put-In-Bay, this museum offers an intimate glimpse into the spirited, resilient life of the islanders who've called these waters home for generations. The museum tells the story of a community shaped by fishing, shipping, and community while living on the waterfront. Discover the legacy of ferry captains, island trade, and water travel that influenced life on the islands.

443 Catawba Ave., Put-In-Bay

[leihs.org](http://leihs.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

## 11 Maritime Museum of Sandusky

The Maritime Museum of Sandusky highlights Ohio's history of water transportation – from canoes to freighters. Sandusky was an important port for shipbuilding and lake trade, which linked it to railroads and steamship lines. The “Canal Docks” exhibit shows how freighters transported industrial coal from the late 19th century to today. See 19th-century schooner tools, passenger steamship models, and a restored 1939 Lyman runabout

125 Meigs St., Sandusky

[sanduskymaritime.org](http://sanduskymaritime.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Shores & Islands](#)

## 12 Delphos Canal Commission Museum

Delphos served as a prominent port on the Miami & Erie Canal. Many canal boat owners and captains lived in Delphos, and farmers shipped their goods along the canal. See the excavated hull of the canal boat *Marguerite*, which is believed to be the only authentic canal boat on display anywhere. Visit a recreation of a captain's cabin on the boat and explore the photo collection of Delphos during the canal era.

241 N. Main St., Delphos

[delphoscanalcommission.com](http://delphoscanalcommission.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Greater Lima](#)

## 13 Wallace Family Learning & Innovation Center

The “Onward and Upward” exhibit showcases Shelby County's transportation history, including the Miami & Erie Canal. An interactive canal boat features present and past video footage of the canal, showing visitors how the canal moved people, goods, and ideas. Sidney's place along the canal allowed it to grow and become a transportation hub in Ohio.

115 E. North St., Sidney

[shelbycountyhistory.org/learningcenter](http://shelbycountyhistory.org/learningcenter)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Sidney Visitors Bureau](#)

## Central

## 14 Ohio History Center

Many Ohio History Connection sites across Ohio relate to canal history, and the Ohio History Center holds canal maps, models, and interpretive materials that help tell the story of Ohio's canals. Visit the Archives to research canal history and learn more details not addressed at smaller canal historic sites.

800 E. 17th Ave., Columbus

[ohiohistory.org/ohc](http://ohiohistory.org/ohc)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Experience Columbus](#)

## Southwest

## 15 Cardboard Boat Museum

See a fun, creative side of transportation history by celebrating how people design and move vessels on the water. The museum preserves and displays dozens of cardboard boats that were built and raced along the Ohio River, revealing how imagination, engineering, and teamwork come together in watercraft design. Displays feature trophies and trace the evolution of boat design from simple canoes to oversize teacups.

311 Front St., New Richmond

[cardboardboatmuseum.com](http://cardboardboatmuseum.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Discover Clermont](#)

## 16 The Canal Museum

The Canal Museum was built as a replica of a lock keeper's house. It sits on the site of the former Miami & Erie Canal and the Hydraulic Canal. Middletown's hydraulic lock used pressurized water, unlike traditional gravity-fed locks, and was part of a hydraulic race system. This diverted water to power turbines for local industries like paper and steel, making Middletown both a vital canal transport hub and an early center of industrial activity.

1605 N. Verity Pkwy., Middletown

[middletownhistoricalsociety.com/canalmuseum](http://middletownhistoricalsociety.com/canalmuseum)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Travel Butler County](#)

## 17 Great Council State Park

Ohio's newest state park, Great Council State Park, tells the story of transportation up to the late 18th century. The Little Miami River shaped how the Shawnee and local tribal communities traveled the land. The “Canoes and Little Miami” exhibit showcases canoes used by the Shawnee to travel and trade. The Little Miami River provided communities with an effective method of transportation to interact with neighboring villages.

1587 US Route 68 N., Xenia

[ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/great-council-state-park](http://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/great-council-state-park)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Greene County Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

## 18 Johnston Farm & Indian Agency

Before European explorers, the land of the Agency was occupied by Indigenous peoples. In 1804, John Johnston purchased the land and kept good company with the Indigenous people living in the area. Tour the homestead to learn about life along the path of the Miami & Erie Canal. Learn about the fur trade and the impact of the Miami & Erie Canal. Be sure to catch a ride on the *General Harrison* Canal Boat.

9845 N. Hardin Rd., Piqua

[ohiohistory.org/johnston](http://ohiohistory.org/johnston)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau](#)





# Water

Lake Erie, the Ohio River, canals



## Southeast

### 19 Muskingum River Navigation System

The Muskingum River Navigation System tells the story of early American transportation by showing how rivers powered trade and settlement. Its hand-operated locks and dams connected inland communities to the Ohio & Erie Canal, opening the Midwest to commerce. Today, the preserved waterways reveal how water transportation shaped regional growth in the 19th century and beyond.

1390 Ellis Dam, Zanesville

[ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/muskingum-river-state-park](http://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/muskingum-river-state-park)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Morgan County](#)

### 20 Monticello III at Historic Roscoe Village

Step back in time at Roscoe Village, once a bustling 19th-century port along the Ohio & Erie Canal, where mule-drawn boats fueled Ohio's growth. Today, the *Monticello III*—a full-scale replica canal boat—offers a charming 45-minute journey along a restored mile of canal, pulled by powerful draft horses. As you glide through history, you'll witness a canal driver in action and learn how goods traveled the towpath during the "Big Ditch" era.

600 N. Whitewoman St., Coshocton

[roscoevillage.com](http://roscoevillage.com)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Visit Coshocton](#)

### 21 Campus Martius Museum

Located at the confluence of the Muskingum and Ohio rivers, Marietta was a hub of early river trade and settlement. It was the first settlement established in the Northwest Territory, and the Campus Martius stockade served as the primary civilian defense. These settlers built flatboats for their journey down the Ohio River while also traveling with Conestoga wagons on land. See these vehicles while you explore the story of how Ohioans first arrived.

601 Second St., Marietta

[mariettamuseums.org](http://mariettamuseums.org)

- Visitor information for nearby attractions, dining and lodging:

[Marietta/Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

