

You should take a minute to go through the itinerary before you start your Daytrip. It's pretty easy to navigate a Daytrip alone but it's always helpful to have a companion, especially if it's your first time out. You'll find that there is probably more information than you will need concerning directions, landmarks, and comments.

If you follow the itinerary you'll never get lost (though some times it might feel that way), but it's a good idea to have a service station type roadmap with you. Any true backroad that you may be on will generally wind up at a main State Route or U.S. Highway at some point.

There are two sets of mileage numbers for each Itinerary item: The first is the driving distance of that specific item and the second number, in brackets, is the accumulated mileage from the beginning of the Daytrip. Distances between points are to the tenth of a mile. This is more about precision and accuracy than wanting you to constantly watch the odometer. Since each odometer may vary slightly you may notice small discrepancies in the Itinerary mileage numbers.

While some directions require you to pay attention to a turn, most happen at a deadend and/or well described landmark. RELAX AND ENJOY THE DRIVE.

The most important parts of the itinerary are highlighted. Have a pen with you so you can check off the itinerary along the way. We expect that you'll find a "Daytrip Favorite" that you'll want to take more than once. In our experience, we hardly glanced at the itinerary on a repeat Daytrip. Once you're out there on the road, it will be that obvious.

Please read the Rules of the Road page on our website www.DaytripCincinnati.com

Road Rating:

- L1. Level 1 – Best
4 lane highway, watch for cross traffic.
- L2. Level 2 – Good
Well marked and maintained 2 lane road.
- L3. Level 3 – Difficult
1 ½- 2 lanes, may be unlined. Blind or sharp curves and hills.
Watch for slow moving farm machinery, Amish buggies, bikes, etc.!
- L4. Level 4 – Most Difficult
1 ½ lanes, unlined. May be gravel on asphalt in some places.
Blind or sharp curves and hills. Not much traffic, but no margin for error either. Please drive carefully.

NOTE: Whenever you go through any town the speed limit will drop down to 35mph, and in many cases 25mph. Always obey the posted speed limit.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE, ALWAYS CHECK THE "UPDATES" PAGE AT DaytripCincinnati.Com FOR THE MOST CURRENT AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION ON ROAD CLOSURES AND DETOURS.

IF YOU COME ACROSS A ROAD CLOSURE OR DETOUR WHILE OUT ON A DAYTRIP, PLEASE LET US KNOW ABOUT IT ON THE "TIPS & REVIEWS" PAGE.

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO ANTIQUES, ARTS, & HISTORY

This Daytrip is a bit of a departure from our other driving adventures. While most of our Daytrips get you onto serious back-country roads, this one is a straight shot on US Highway 52 to Portsmouth, Ohio. Also, there is so much to see on this Daytrip that you may wish to consider our suggestions to turn your Daytrip into an Overnighter.

If you were to drive US Highway 52 in its entirety, you'd be driving from Chicago to Charleston, South Carolina. This Daytrip will take you on 100 miles of the 967 mile long Ohio Scenic Byway that starts in East Liverpool, Ohio and follows the Ohio River to the Mississippi River.

As Portsmouth and its rich history goes, "the writing's on the wall". OK, well maybe "painted" on the wall. There are 52 historical murals covering 2,200 feet, and making it the longest known work of art by a single artist. Muralist Robert Dafford began this project in 1993, completing his work in October of 2002. These 20 ft. high murals are truly wonderful work and great example of the photo-realism style of painting.

Portsmouth is defined by two districts – The Boneyfiddle (bonnie-fiddle) District and the Downtown District. It's not a far walk between the two, but check out Boney-fiddle first and drive into Downtown. Highlights of the Boneyfiddle District include The Scioto County Welcome Center, Ghosts in the Attic Antiques, the Chinaberry Tree and several other unique shops, The Portsmouth Brewing Company (tell the owner, Steve, that you're on a Daytrip!), and some cool restaurants – the Bonniefiddle Tearoom, Ye Olde Lantern, and the Old Towne Café.

The Downtown District borders the campus of Shawnee State University. The campus area is home to the Vern Riffe Center for the Arts and the Clark Planetarium. A couple of blocks north of here on Gallia Street, you'll find the Southern Ohio Museum and a permanent collection of Portsmouth artist Clarence Holbrook Carter (1904-2000). The Southern Ohio Museum is also home to an amazing permanent collection of Native American artifacts ranging from 1,500-8,000 years old. A must see.

Another must see in the Downtown District is The Emporium at Portsmouth. We've been in a lot of Antiques Shops, and this place is the best...an amazing selection at reasonable prices, and run by two of the friendliest and knowledgeable people in the antiques game (Once again, tell Paul or Kevin that you're on a Daytrip!). For food, you can't do wrong in the Downtown District if you go to the Port City Café & Pub, the Scioto Ribber (Oak fired Bar-B-Que, also owned by Steve from the Portsmouth Brewing Company), or Williams American Cuisine (upscale menu, good stuff)

Drivetime for this Daytrip is 5 hours. Drivetime begins and ends at I-275.

IMPORTANT – Many of the businesses & restaurants listed are closed on Sunday and Monday... not much of an issue for Monday, but Sunday closings may be inconvenient for weekend Daytrippers. If there is a place that you'd like to visit on a Sunday, you may want to call in advance about hours of operation.

Portsmouth Tourism Links, Info, and Special Discounts

Here's a comprehensive list of DaytripCincinnati.com recommended shops & galleries, museums, restaurants, events, and overnight accommodations in Portsmouth, Ohio. You can also check our Tips & Reviews page for more details about these destinations. Look for Special Discounts at selected businesses exclusively for DayTrip Cincinnati visitors!!! Just show them this page of the Daytrip Itinerary, and you're all set.

SCIOTO COUNTY GENERAL INFORMATION

Scioto County Welcome Center: PortsmouthCVB.org (1.800.648.2574)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off 1 Mural Item at the Giftshop

Shawnee State Resort: ShawneeLodgeResort.com (740.858.6621)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off Lunch (Expires April 30, 2007)

Portsmouth Spartans Historical Society: PortsmouthSpartans.org

Ohio River Scenic Byway: OhioRiverScenicByway.com

Portsmouth Raceway: PortsRaceway.com (704.858.6661)

KC Raceway: kc-raceway.com (740.289.4114)

BONEYFIDDLE DISTRICT

Boneyfiddle Events Committee: HistoricBoneyfiddle.com

Ghosts in the Attic: 543 Second Street (740.353.6111)

Tootsies Antiques: 602 Second Street (740.354.2689)

Daytrip Special – 15% Off Any Purchase Over \$15.

Boneyfiddle Gallery: 537 Second Street- BoneyfiddleGallery.com (740.353.8689)

Chinaberry Tree: 534 Second Street- (470.353.1779)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off of a Purchase of \$200 or more

The Portsmouth Brewing Co.: 224 Second Street (740.354.6106)

Ye Olde Lantern Restaurant: 601 Second Street (740.353.6638)

Boneyfiddle Tea Room: 429 Second Street (740.353.7030)

Daytrip Special – One Free Cup of Hot or Cold Tea.

DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

Southern Ohio Museum: 825 Gallia Street- SOMACC.com (740.354.5629)

Daytrip Special – One Free Visit

Clark Planetarium: 940 Second Street- shawnee.edu/off/plt (740.351.3125)

Vern Riffe Center for the Arts: 940 Second Street- vrcfa.org (740.351.3600)

The Emporium at Portsmouth: 607 Chillicothe Street- [The Emporiums.com](http://TheEmporiums.com)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off Any Purchase over \$20.

Williams Restaurant: 603 Chillicothe Street- (740.355.3141)

The Scioto Ribber: 1026 Gallia Street- (740.353.9329)

Port City Café & Pub: 424 Chillicothe Street- (740.355.9015)

OVERNIGHT ACCOMODATIONS

The Riverview Bed & Breakfast: RiverHost.com – (740.355.4004)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off Overnight Stay (Any Day, including weekends)

The Captain's Quarters Bed & Breakfast: CaptainsQuartersPortsmouth.com-(740.354.6609)

Daytrip Special – 10% Off Overnight Stay (Monday-Thursday)

Shawnee State Resort: ShawneeLodgeResort.com (740.858.2261)

Daytrip Special – 20% Off Overnight Stay (Monday-Thursday, excluding holidays)

Offer expires April 30, 2007.

GETTING THERE



L1 & L2. From I-275 take Exit #71 - US Highway 52 East (New Richmond). Go 100 miles to Portsmouth, Ohio. The halfway point of this Daytrip is the town of Aberdeen. Along the way to Aberdeen you'll pass through several rivertowns, including: New Richmond, Point Pleasant, Moscow, Higginsport, Chilo, Neville, and Ripley, Ohio

There is a State Rest Area in Point Pleasant and Chilo Lock #34 Park, both on the Right. The Rest Area at Point Pleasant the right side of the road across from the birthplace of Ulysses S. Grant, and is somewhat primitive by modern standards. Chilo Lock #34 Park has more modern facilities, a nature preserve, and a new museum dedicated to life on the Ohio River.

36.8 miles in, look for a small group of 2-3 white buildings and a sign for the Brown County Rural Water Association, on the Right. There is a small fenced-in gravel parking lot here. This is the area where you'll be able to see a nesting pair of Bald Eagles and their offspring. The nest is straight down the treeline that leads to the river, but one of the eagles frequently hangs out in a tall tree in the middle of the open field.

As you enter Ripley, Ohio you'll see a sign on the left for the Rankin House, home to Presbyterian Minister and anti-slavery activist John Rankin, and the final stop on the journey to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

Aberdeen is just a few miles beyond Ripley. About 1 mile past the "New" Bridge at US Highway 62/68 (The George Harsha Bridge, named for the local builder of late 1800's covered bridge- see East Region Covered Bridge Daytrips) you'll see Brown's Restaurant on the Right, and a great place to stop for breakfast.

Once you're beyond Aberdeen, you will encounter noticeably fewer small towns and less traffic. 57.5 miles in you'll see the Moyer Winery on the Right, and a recommended stop for lunch. Great food in a great setting.

Just past the Moyer Winery at 60.2 miles in, you will enter the town of Manchester, Ohio. There is another modern Rest Area at a riverfront park called Kinfolk's Landing. As you enter Manchester, turn Right at the sign for Kinfolk's Landing, at the 3-story light brown, stone building (FOE Lodge).

81 miles in there is another Rest Area on the Right, and while perfectly functional is primitive by modern standards.

93 miles in you will enter the Shawnee State Forest Region, and 1 mile past this you will see the Shawnee State Resort Golf Course, on the Right. 1.5 miles past this you'll see the junction with Ohio State Route 125. Route 125 is the main access road to Shawnee State Resort. If you want to check out the resort or take a short hike in the woods, turn Left here. In a few miles you'll pass a small lake on the Left where the resort cabins and camping area is. Just past this, also on the Left, is another larger lake and the road to the Park Office and Lodge. You can get trailmaps and complete park information at the office. The Lodge is worth seeing and a terrific place to stay if you want to make this Daytrip an overnigher.



98 miles in you'll come to a traffic light at Portsmouth West HS & Elementary. Just past this the road becomes 4-lane and you'll see the Portsmouth Ohio River bridges up ahead.



In the next 2 miles you'll see a slew of green highway signs...keep following the sign that reads "Downtown Portsmouth" – IGNORE EVERYTHING ELSE. Following the "Downtown Portsmouth" signs and at 100.5 miles in, you'll exit Right and come to a traffic light. On your Right is a bridge over the Ohio River into Kentucky. Go Straight.



You'll immediately cross a bridge over the mouth of the Scioto River, and pass the Burger Barn & Bridge Carryout on the Left. Just past this you'll pass through the floodwall at the Portsmouth Brewing Company, on the Right. You are on 2nd Street.



Go a couple more blocks to the Scioto County Welcome Center, on the Right. This is in the Boneyfiddle District. Stop here for complete information on what to see & do. An excellent walking tour map of Portsmouth is available. The murals are 1 block to the river on Front Street. To get to the Downtown District continue on 2nd Street, and bear Left at the Ramada Inn.

GETTING BACK

Please reset your odometer to Zero

OK, nothing real complicated about this. Leave Portsmouth the way that you came in and follow the signs for US Highway 52 West/Cincinnati. This is all well marked.

As a Special Feature, we will also include additional return trip options, with a Tip o' the Hat to Chris at the CinZroadsters BMW Club. Chris is fine fellow and one our favorite Daytrippers, and we thank him for adding this valuable resource to our community.

CHRIS' WAY BACK

OPTION 1

The easy route is North on Route 23 out of Portsmouth to Highway 32 and then west to Cincinnati arriving at Eastgate in about 100 miles.

OPTION 2

North on 73 (kinda twisty and fun) to Highway 32 and then west to Cincinnati.

OPTION 3

Cross the Ohio River in Portsmouth and follow route 8 to Quincy, bearing left on to Highway 10 that will merge with the AA. The AA Highway will take you access points for Maysville, Kentucky and US Highway 52 West in Ohio.

OPTION 4

An alternative route might be to head South West out of Portsmouth on Highway 52 and take the twisty Route 125 until it intersects with Highway 68 just to the East of Georgetown. From there, those wanting the most direct way back would turn North on 68, the West on 32. Otherwise, follow 125 through Georgetown reversing our original route to Portsmouth.

Please visit www.DaytripCincinnati.com, go to the Tips & Reviews page, and give us your comments, reviews, tips, and tales.

DISCLAIMER. We here at DaytripCincinnati are big believers in the concept that we live in a society with it's foundation in law and justice, and we think it's all working pretty darned well.

It should also be recognized that we currently live in a society where some people need to be told, in explicit legalese, NOT to trim hedges with a lawnmower, coffee is HOT, etc.

So, we here at DaytripCincinnati feel compelled to let you know that your use of the material supplied by us is at your own risk. We will not be held responsible for accidents, injuries, thefts, trouble with the sheriff, fistfights with farmers, bugs in your grill, etc, etc. Please abide by the spirit of the Daytrip experience.