

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. This Daytrip also includes GPS coordinates for the various waypoints along the way.

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.

DARKE COUNTY ANTIQUES, ARTS, & HISTORY

If you are interested in Ohio history then this Daytrip to Darke County is a surefire bullseye, and not just because it's the birthplace of Annie Oakley. In the 1700's this part of Ohio was the Western frontier for European settlers. The Native Americans did not take kindly to this invasion of their hunting grounds and took action.

The first troops sent by President George Washington to quell this uprising were defeated but established Fort Jefferson, the first settlement in Darke County. Fort Jefferson is about 10 miles south of present day Greenville. President Washington then sent General "Mad" Anthony Wayne to the Ohio Territory where he established the settlement of Greene Ville in 1793. Wayne achieved greater success on this mission and in 1795 the Treaty of Greene Ville was signed in the fort.

While the fort has been lost to the winds of time, you'll find an amazing display of this history in the Treaty Room at the Garst Museum and the Anthony Wayne Peace Council House (just across the street from the Garst Museum). The Garst Museum has several wings dedicated to early history, the lives of Annie Oakley and world-renowned broadcaster Lowell Thomas, and an extensive collection of military history dating back to the War of 1812. In all of our travels to the tri-state rural counties, we've never seen a more comprehensive display of history and heritage. The Garst Museum is within easy walking distance from the Visitors Bureau, as well as many quaint shops and great restaurants. Greenville is also the place where KitchenAid stand mixers are made (We've got one!) and there is a KitchenAid store right downtown with everything for the cook in the family.

For the outdoorsy Daytripper Greenville offers several beautiful parks and nature preserves, perfect for getting out in the woods for a little bit of nature's wonders. For the gearheads out there, you definitely must go to a dirt track race at Eldora Speedway. Eldora is owned by NASCAR driver and Columbus, Indiana native Tony Stewart, and is located a few miles north of Greenville.

We hope that you will make this Daytrip and overnighter. Darke County has large community events most every month of the year, but there is plenty to see even on an "off" weekend. Driving tours of Darke County are available at the Visitors Bureau. We recommend a sidetrip to Versailles, Ohio, about 15 minutes East of Greenville. The Inn at Versailles has incredible European-style rooms and a restaurant that rivals big city standards. Right down the block you'll find Brown's Sweet Shop, a great bakery and breakfast place right out of the 1950's. Versailles also offers the Winery at Versailles for tastings and tours in a perfect country setting.

You'll find something fun to do on any given weekend that you may choose to visit Darke County, from farmers markets and concerts in the park, to shows at the Darke County Center for the Arts and cooking classes at the KitchenAid Experience. Festivals and events include Arcanum Old Fashioned Days in May; Versailles Poultry Days in June; Annie Oakley Days Festival, Union City Heritage Days, and the Farm Power of the Past in July; the GREAT Darke County Fair in August; harvest festivals throughout September and October, and the Holiday Open House and Carriage Parade in November.

Since Greenville is a true crossroads town, we're going to challenge you a bit for the return trip. There are several easy options and we'll give you the general details that will get you back to Cincinnati. That being said, it will be a good idea to have an Ohio road map with you, or even better, and Ohio Gazeteer (available at most book stores and service stations). Visit our [Tips & Reviews page](#) and let us know how it goes.

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

Darke County Tourism Information

Here's a comprehensive list of DaytripCincinnati.com recommended shops & galleries, museums, restaurants, events, and overnight accommodations in Darke County, Ohio. Did we miss anything? Post it on Tips & Reviews and we'll add it to the Itinerary. 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.

DARKE COUNTY GENERAL INFORMATION

Darke County Visitors Bureau: VisitDarkeCounty.org (1.800.504.2995)

Garst Museum: GarstMuseum.org (937.548.5250)

Darke County Parks: DarkeCountyParks.org (937.548.0165)

Eldora Speedway: EldoraSpeedway.com (937.338.3815)

KitchenAid Experience: KitchenAid.com/experience (888.886.8318)

20% Off Retail Price of One Item. See Store for Details..

Darke County Center for the Arts: CenterForArts.net (937.547.0908)

Bear's Mill: BearsMill.com (937.548.5112)

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

St. Clair Place: 224 E. Third St., Greenville; StClairBnb.com (937.548.9599)

\$10 Off the Regular Room Rate

Greenville Inn: 851 Martin St., Greenville: GreenvilleInnOhio.com (800.631.5058)

Waring House B&B: 304 W. Third St., Greenville (937.548.2682)

Wayman's Corner B&B: 633 Central Ave., Greenville: WaymansCorner.com (937.316.6074)

The Inn at Versailles: 21 W. Main St., Versailles: InnatVersailles.com (937.526.3131)

Betty's B&B: 7885 Martz Rd., Versailles (937.526.4037)

RESTAURANTS

Montage Café: 527 S. Broadway, Greenville (937.548.1950)

The Bistro Off Broadway: 117 E. 5th, Greenville TheBistroOffBroadway.com (937.316.5000)

Broadway Joe's Coffeeshop: Broadway & 5th, Greenville (937.548.4120)

Back in Time Café: 1249 Sweitzer St., Greenville (937.548.1763)

CJ's HighMarks Restaurant: 1475 Wagner Ave. (937.548.1400)

The Inn at Versailles: 21 W. Main St., Versailles: InnatVersailles.com (937.526.3020)

Brown's Sweet Shop: 40 E. Main St., Versailles (937.526.3722)

Jitters Café: 28 E. Main St., Versailles (937.526.3506)

Smith Coffeeshop: 109 W. George St., Arcanum (937.692.6300)

One Free 12 oz. Cup of Coffee - \$1.25 Value

SHOPPING

Ann's Gifts: 426 S. Broadway, Greenville, (937.548.6301)

The Corner Cottage: US 36 & Jaysville-St. Johns Rd., Greenville (937.548.4458)

Expressions Of Tyme: 411 S. Broadway, Greenville (937.548.9650)

The Ivy League 517 S. Broadway, Greenville (937.548.8759)

McMaster & Storm: 620 S. Broadway, Greenville: mcmasterandstorm.blogspot.com
(937.548.2100)

Readmore's Hallmark: 524 S. Broadway, Greenville (937.548.2472)

Sweet Annie's Cabin: 436 S. Broadway, Greenville (937.547.9499)

House of Flowers: 10 E. Main St., Versailles (937.526.3798 or (800.881.2945)

GETTING THERE



L1. From I-275 take Exit #33 A/B - US Highway 127 North (Colerain Ave.). If you are Eastbound on I-275 turn Right off of the exit, if you are Westbound on I-275 turn Left off of the exit.



Go 4.7 miles to Ohio State Route 126/128. Exit here and turn right at the traffic light (Ohio 128 North). Landmark: The exit is just over the bridge that crosses the Great Miami River.



Go 10.5 miles to the traffic light at US Highway 127. Turn Left. Landmarks: 6.7 miles in you will arrive in Hamilton, Ohio proper. This stretch of road has a lot of Left and Right Turn Only lanes...**Keep Going Straight.** 8.8 miles in Ohio 128 forks to the right. There is a sign that says "To US Highway 127. Go another 1.5 miles, across the river and past New Miami High School on the right, to US 127. Turn Left.



Go 2.8 miles and turn Right on to Ohio Route 503 North in Seven Mile, Ohio. Landmark: It's more of a right fork actually. The First Financial Bank is in the middle of the fork.
Note: Re-set your trip odometer at this point. The next step has a tricky turn at the end.



L2. Go 37.5 miles to Hollansburg/Arcanum Road. Turn Right. Landmarks: There are farm houses on three of the corners and a sign that says "Arcanum - 3 miles".

Landmarks along the way up Ohio 503:

12.1 miles in you will drive through Gratis, Ohio. Daytrip Option: Visit a covered bridge from 1887! Turn Left onto Ohio 122 in Gratis. Just out of town you'll see a large cemetery on your left and Brubaker Road. Turn Left onto Brubaker and follow a short distance to the Brubaker Bridge. Backtrack out to Ohio 503 and Turn Left. This will add 2.3 miles to your trip odometer reading.

18.5 miles in you'll pass through West Alexandria, Ohio.

25.4 miles in you'll cross over I-70 and enter Lewisburg, Ohio. There is a fine Antiques mall just past the flashing red lights in town and on the left. It's worth the stop and you can pick up some helpful local information there.

34.2 miles in you'll pass through Ithaca, Ohio. This is just a couple of miles away from the tricky turn.



Go 3 miles into Arcanum, Ohio. As you enter the town section look for Smith CoffeeHouse & Merchants on your left. It's a 2 story brick building with The John Smith Co. painted on the side. . If you left on this Daytrip at a reasonable hour of the morning, you should be arriving in Arcanum around noon and Smith's Coffee House offers a terrific lunch menu. Take your Itinerary in for a free cup of coffee! (See page 3 for details). Just around the corner is another great shop called Staley's Antiques



Go to the traffic light a block down the street from Smith's. Turn Left (North) at the traffic light (Main Street). Landmarks: The Corner Restaurant is on the right corner, there is a bank on the left corner, and a car dealership on the far corners.



L2, with some L3. Go 8 miles to Bear's Mill on the left (Parking on the right).

Landmarks along the way up to Bears Mill: Just out of Arcanum, Main Street becomes Alternate Ohio Route 49. You'll cross Ohio 49 and the road becomes Arcanum-Bears Mill Road. **Note: Cross traffic does not stop at Ohio 49.**

4 miles in you'll come to a stopsign at Hogpath Road. Keep going straight.

Bear's Mill is an amazing place, a working grain mill from the 1800's (Like Clifton Mill on our Clifton Gorge/John Bryan State Park Daytrip). You are invited to explore all 4 floors of the mill, brimming with two centuries of historical grain milling machinery. Freshly milled products are available for purchase along with a well stocked pantry of gourmet cooking items. There is also a very cool art gallery that features a rotating selection from area artists. Gallery items are also available for purchase.



Continue less than .5 miles to US Highway 36. Turn Left.



Follow US 36 into downtown Greenville. Bear to the Right onto S. Broadway as you enter town. Note: After you cross US 127, US 36 becomes Ohio 571.

Turn Right onto the first street that you come to, East 5th Street, and park. The Darke County Visitors Bureau is in the Palace building, a renovated Victorian building at the corner of 5th & Broadway, 2nd floor. It's a good place to stop for everything that you'll need to explore Greenville and Darke County.

GETTING BACK

The return drive on this Daytrip is a bit unique as there are several ways to get back, all about the same drivetime and all pleasant, scenic routes. No matter which way you decide to go, it will just be many consecutive miles on main State Routes or US Highways. There is plenty of signage and this is pretty easy stuff, but you may want to have a roadmap with you.

Option 1: Go back out the way that you came into Greenville and take US Highway 127 South (also combined US Highway 36, but you are staying on 127). This will take you directly to I-275, but the last 15 miles is going through downtown Hamilton and Fairfield. This route will also be a little more heavily traveled as far as traffic volume goes.

Option 2: Same as above, but about 25 miles in when you get into Eaton, Ohio on US 127, turn Right onto Ohio Route 732. This is just beyond the junction with US Highway 35 in the center of town. Follow Ohio 732 all the way to Oxford, Ohio. In Oxford, pickup US Highway 27 and follow South to I-275. This is where your Daytrip began.

Option 3: Leave Greenville from the South end of town and take Ohio Route 121 South. Just South of Fort Jefferson (6 or 7 miles), take Ohio 503 South. This follows the same route as the way up, but since your going the other way it should all look different (sorry, couldn't resist ☺). Ohio 503 dead-ends at US 27. You can continue on US 27 to I-275, or keep going back the way that you came in.

Option 4: Go to the roundabout at the north end of Broadway and take the first Right Turn onto Ohio Route 121 North. Follow Ohio 121 into Versailles, Ohio. In Versailles, pick up Ohio 185 South. Follow Ohio 185 to Piqua, Ohio and I-75 South. From here you are about 70 minutes from I-275.

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, DO NOT use a hair dryer in the shower, 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.