

History in Ohio's Halls of Fame and Museums

[National Museum of the United States Air Force](#) (Dayton) – The museum showcases military aviation history and boasts more than 400 aerospace vehicles -- many rare and one-of-a-kind -- ranging from the Wright Brothers to current day technology. Don't miss the Presidential Hangar or the National Aviation Hall of Fame, along with the IMAX Theater (admission fee for IMAX) and interactive exhibits. **Admission: FREE**

[Tiffin Glass Museum](#) (Tiffin) -- The museum showcases more than 2,000 pieces of Tiffin Glass produced at the Tiffin factory from its beginning in 1889 until the end of production in 1980. **Admission: FREE**

[Ohio Historical Center](#) (Columbus) -- The flagship museum of the Ohio Historical Society allows visitors to experience Ohio's past through various exhibits. [Controversy: Pieces You Don't Normally See](#) is the latest exhibit and features five "controversial" pieces, including the electric chair from the old Ohio Penitentiary, a Ku Klux Klan robe and hood, and a crib-bed cage that restrained patients at a state mental institution. **Admission: Free for OHS members; Adults - \$8**

Floral Fascination

[Cleveland Botanical Garden](#) (Cleveland) -- The botanical garden is comprised of more than 10 acres of outdoor gardens and the Eleanor Armstrong Smith Glass House. The Glass House presents two unique ecosystems -- the spiny desert of Madagascar and the rainforest of Costa Rica -- with a total of 350 species of exotic plants and more than 50 species of butterflies, insects, birds, reptiles and amphibians. **Admission: Members - FREE; Adults - \$8.50; Participates in American Horticultural Society reciprocal admission program.**

[Holden Arboretum](#) (Kirtland) -- Primarily known for its majestic rhododendrons, the Holden Arboretum encompasses more than 3,400 acres and is one of the largest arboretums in the United States. Complete with a butterfly garden and Visitor Center, the site's conservation efforts, collections and natural areas make Holden Arboretum one of the nation's leading horticultural institutions. **Admission: members - FREE; non-members - \$6**

[Dawes Arboretum](#) (Newark) -- Dawes is open year-round and encourages visitors to bask in its 1,800 acres featuring eight miles of hiking trails, a four-mile auto tour, 15,000 living plants, a Japanese Garden and an observation tower. **Admission: FREE**

Calling All Art Enthusiasts!

[Butler Institute of American Art](#) (Youngstown) -- The Butler Institute is the first museum dedicated to American art. Known worldwide as "America's Museum,"

its collection exceeds 20,000 works of art including Norman Rockwell's 1965 painting "Lincoln the Railsplitter" and the 1872 painting "Snap the Whip" by Winslow Homer. **Admission: FREE**

[Columbus Museum of Art](#) (Columbus) -- This museum houses an outstanding collection of late 19th and early 20th-century American and European modern art, including major works by Claude Monet, Henri Matisse, Edward Hopper and Georgia O'Keeffe. The entire first floor has been recently transformed into a Center for Creativity where visitors of all ages will find opportunities to explore, think, imagine, collaborate, play, learn, problem-solve, wonder, design and create. **Admission: members - FREE; Sundays - FREE; adults (Mon. - Sat.) - \$10**

[Cleveland Museum of Art](#) (Cleveland) -- The museum is currently in the midst of a massive \$350 million dollar renovation/expansion due for completion in 2013. During the construction process, however, more than 900 pieces -- many of which have been out of the public's eye for the past five years -- are back on display in 16,000 square feet of renovated space. **Admission: FREE**

Ohio's Presidential Past

[National McKinley Birthplace Memorial](#) (Niles) -- This memorial and library honors the 25th U.S. President, William F. McKinley, who was born and raised in Niles, Ohio. His memorial is a classic example of Greek architecture and was built with Georgian marble with two lateral wings. A statue of the former president graces the center of the "Court of Honor," and the museum contains artifacts of McKinley's life and presidency. He was the only president from the Civil War era who entered the Union Army as an enlisted man. **Admission: FREE**

[Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center](#) (Fremont) -- Visitors to the Hayes Presidential Center can tour the Hayes Home and Hayes Museum, utilize the vast resources of the Hayes Library, visit the President's burial site, see the original gates from the White House and enjoy 25 acres of President Hayes' beloved "Spiegel Grove" estate. Admission fees are charged for Home and Museum tours. The Library and grounds can be accessed for free. **Admission: (Museum or Library): OHS members - FREE; non-members - \$7.50**

[National First Ladies' Library/First Ladies National Historic Site](#) (Canton) -- Learn about the lives, both public and personal, of each of the 46 women who have been the best friend and confidant to leaders of the free world for the last 200-plus years. The museum is the only one of its kind in the nation. **Admission: Adults - \$7**

[Ulysses S. Grant Birthplace](#) (Point Pleasant) and [Boyhood Home](#) (Georgetown) - Visit the birthplace of the Ohio man who led the Civil War effort for the Union and went on to become the 18th President of the United States. This restored one-story, three-room cottage, built in 1817, was next to the tannery where Grant's father worked. Also, visit his boyhood home in Georgetown where Grant

lived from the age of one to 16, when he left to attend West Point. **Admission:**
Birthplace: OHS members - FREE; non-members - \$3; Boyhood Home:
Adults - \$3

Outdoor Adventure

[Ohio State Parks](#) -- The parks provide limitless opportunities for outdoor recreation every season in scenic settings at our [75 locations across the state](#). Spend the day exploring the park, hiking, biking, fishing, swimming, boating or golfing. Spend the night in a cottage, a convenient getaway rental, or in your own tent or camper. See the website for the [calendar of events](#). **Admission: FREE**

[Glacial Grooves](#) (Kelleys Island) -- Kelleys Island, a small island located on Lake Erie, has much to offer the visitors who come and see it. Some of the history on the island can be found in the limestone itself. At the Glacial Grooves memorial, visitors can see a rare piece of the island's Pleistocene history -- the age of glacial activity in the region. **Admission: FREE**

[Serpent Mound](#) (Peebles) -- Serpent Mound is one of the largest and finest serpent effigy mounds in the country. Nearly a quarter of a mile long, Serpent Mound represents an uncoiling serpent. The head of the serpent is aligned to the summer solstice sunset and the coils also may point to the winter solstice sunrise and the equinox sunrise. Visitors may walk along a footpath surrounding the serpent and experience the mystery and power of this monumental effigy. **Admission: FREE**