

TALKING TOURISM June 7, 2020

Each month this space will be devoted to a column written by Debbie Robinson, executive director of the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau (VCB). She will provide information about upcoming events, area attractions, bureau services and projects, and most importantly, communicate the tremendous impact that the travel and tourism industry has on this region.

Kid-Friendly Activities to Experience This Summer

For parents looking opportunities that will engage and entertain the entire family, you only need to look in your own back yard.

Lake Life

Ohio's largest state park, **Salt Fork State Park**, is located only 15 minutes from downtown Cambridge. The park boasts 17,229-acres with 14 scenic hiking trails, ranging from easy to moderate. It also has the largest inland beach in the state (there's 74 miles of shoreline), a four-star golf course, a mini-golf course, 200+ campsites, and the Salt Fork Lodge, which itself has 53 cabins and 148 rooms (and yes, it's overlooking the lake at just the right point). The Lodge and all of its amenities opened on June 5th.

<http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/saltfork>

Another perfect spot to explore is **Seneca Lake**. Thirteen miles southeast of Cambridge, Seneca Lake is Ohio's third largest inland waterway, and it has all the lake activities you might expect: fishing for bluegills and bass, boating, waterskiing, hiking, and a beach swimming area – complete with water toys for the kids.

<https://senecapark.mwcd.org/things-to-do/swimming-beach>

The Wilds

The Wilds is one of the largest and most innovative wildlife conservation centers in the world. Located on nearly 10,000 acres near Cambridge, it is home to rare and endangered species from around the world. Visitors can board an Open-Air Safari Tour to see and learn about the animals living in open-range habitats, including a visit to the Mid-Sized Carnivore Conservation Center. Zipline and horseback riding tours are also available. www.TheWilds.org

Guernsey County History Museum

Kids and grown-ups alike will love exploring the Guernsey County History Museum. Located in a nearly 200 year old, restored 16-room home, the museum contains antique furnishings, products and personal items from Guernsey County's past, including a display of an authentic one-room school house and a life like replica of a coal mine from the 1890s. Be sure to check out their WWII display in the military room.

www.Facebook.com/GuernseyHistory

National Museum of Cambridge Glass

Experience what it was like to work at The Cambridge Glass Company (1902-1958). Watch a vintage film showing the Cambridge artisans as they demonstrate the handmade glassmaking process inside the famous glasshouse. The entire family can then dress as glassworkers and hold the original tools that were used to manufacture each piece. You'll be mesmerized by the colorful displays featuring over 9,000 pieces of handmade Cambridge Glass. Kids can make-and-take a pencil rubbing from an authentic etching plate as a souvenir. www.CambridgeGlassMuseum.org

S-Bridge

Designated in 1827 by President Thomas Jefferson, the National Road became the nation's first interstate highway linking the eastern seaboard with the western frontier. This ribbon of road runs through the heart of Guernsey County/Cambridge and features several interesting sites, including unique "S" shaped bridges that span numerous creeks and streams and weave around historic sites. A free driving tour brochure is available. The S-bridge is the perfect spot to stop for a picnic. www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com/what-to-do/discover/heritage-trails/89-the-national-road-an-all-american-national-scenic-byway.html

Deerassic Park Education Center

Deerassic Park Education Center offers unique opportunities for families to learn about the whitetail deer and their environment in a natural setting. A new education complex is open and includes state of the art

classrooms, a 10,000 square foot multipurpose room/gymnasium, welcome center, and interactive educational displays focused on nature and the outdoors. www.Deerassic.com

Kennedy's Bakery

The aroma of freshly baked glazed donuts, sugar cookies, pies and more at Kennedy's Bakery envelope you the moment you walk through the door. Kennedy's has been part of the Cambridge community for nearly 100 years. Don't forget to take a selfie with your donuts next to the mural on the side of the building.

www.kennedysbakery.com

Know before you go. To confirm these attractions and venues are open to the public, please call ahead or check out the VCB website at www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com , visit the Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB office at 627 Wheeling Avenue, Suite 200 in downtown Cambridge, call 740-432-2022, or email info@VisitGuernseyCounty.com

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