

Serene Hideaways in Southeast Ohio

CAMBRIDGE, OHIO (MAY 15, 2021) – The urge to get away from it all and escape to a simpler time and place is strong, especially these days. Cambridge/Guernsey County, Ohio is ready to welcome you and your family with fresh air and wide-open spaces. Whether you seek serene hideaways or come to enjoy our multiple lakes and parks, trails, shops and restaurants, we are conveniently located at the crossroads of two major interstates (I-70 and I-77). This region is just a few hours' drive from Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

GET OUTDOORS at Salt Fork State Park which at 20,181 acres is Ohio's largest state park! Snap photos of wildlife as well as seasonal wildflowers. Cast a fishing line. Lounge at one of Ohio's largest inland beaches. Boat, swim or waterski in the nearly 3,000-acre lake. Bring a picnic and sprawl out in a scenic spot. Hone your swing at the driving range or play a challenging round of golf. Hike 14 different trails. Ride horseback on six bridle trails.

Salt Fork State Park has several other distinctions worth noting. It was dubbed one of the Top 10 "Squatchiest" Places in the Country USA TODAY! Join in the hunt for Bigfoot with night hikes, conferences and more. And don't miss out on Hosak's Cave, a Civil War hideout, and the gem mining station for kids. What's not to love? www.ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/salt-fork-state-park

MAKE A SPLASH at **Seneca Lake** where 3,550-acres of water ripple invitingly. Come boat, swim, waterski, and reel in catfish, bass, walleye, yellow perch, and bluegill. Ohio's third-largest inland lake offers three public boat launch ramps, so bring your speed boat, sailboat, pontoon, jet ski, fishing boat or rent a watercraft from Seneca Lake Marina. There's a 399 horsepower limit, but if you prefer to paddle, rent a kayak or join a guided kayaking program. When you're ready to dry off, explore the park's 4,060 acres of land. www.mwcd.org

CHECK OFF A BUCKET LIST ADVENTURE at The Wilds where visitors get a taste of an African safari with the affordability of Midwest prices. The Wilds resides on over 9000+ acres that were formerly used for strip mining in Cumberland, Ohio. The repurposing of the land allows for important animal conservation and education. During the 2+ hour open-air safari tour, you will see several rare and endangered species, along with rhinos, ostriches, and giraffes roaming around in a natural setting. Tours offered May-October. Tours are 2.5 hours long and are offered daily at 1:30 p.m. (July – October). Advance reservations are required. www.thewilds.org

Are you a fan of **Nat Geo WILD TV series, Secrets of the Zoo**? Join one of The Wilds' Animal Management team members who appear on the hit show for a special tour as they make their rounds. You might help take a head count of the Bactrian deer, see Albert the Sichuan takin, be introduced to the resident giraffe herd or drive among the herd of southern white rhinos.

HALL OF FAME. Deerassic Park Education Center offers year-round programming making it a popular location for field trips and community events. Their mission is to create a one of a kind place where youth and families are encouraged to explore the outdoors. The new 10,000 sq. ft. expansion provides more educational space, Welcome Center, and the future Ohio Whitetail Deer Hall of Fame. Each year the center hosts Deerassic Classic, with over \$1 million in prizes, boasting the world's largest 50/50 drawing. www.deerassic.com

THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

The 35,396-acre Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area, located in portions of Morgan, Muskingum, and Noble counties, is situated in southern Ohio approximately 6 miles east of McConnellsville. located in the unglaciated region of southern Ohio, the terrain, dissected by numerous small streams, is rolling to rugged. A popular hunting area, the park offers four primitive campgrounds at no charge. The park's variety of ponds and lakes offer plentiful fishing and paddling options. Additional acres are available for hunting and fishing in the adjacent wildlife areas. www.ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/jesse-owens-state-park

CATCH A FEW ZZZZ's

Three great places to catch a good night's rest include the Deer Creek Motel, Seneca Point Cabins, and Salt Fork Lodge.

Deer Creek Motel - American Owned/Operated Since 197, Deer Creek Motel offers a full size in-door heated pool year round. All rooms are ground level and are newly remodeled. Smoking/non-smoking rooms are available: king size bed w/sofa or two double beds per room. Adjoining rooms area also available. In-room refrigerators, microwaves, and coffee pots are offered for you convenience. Free Wireless Internet and 24 Hour coffee bar. www.deercreekmotelcambridge.us

Seneca Point Cabins offers newly constructed timber frame cabins nestled among 33 acres of private ground adjacent to Muskingum Watershed Conservatory District land and within 200 feet of beautiful Seneca Lake. Find the best of both worlds with modern amenities and outdoor fun. <https://senecapark.mwcd.org/accommodations/cabins>

Salt Fork State Park Lodge & Conference Center is a massive pine beam and stone lodge that captures the atmosphere and flavor of the grand park lodges built at the turn of the century. Tucked away in Ohio's' largest state park, the lodge is surrounded by lush, wooded surroundings containing miles of hiking and horseback riding trails, large and healthy populations of deer, turkey, flowers, song and water birds - all with a view of Salt Fork lake. www.saltforkparklodge.com

For more information about Cambridge/Guernsey County, call the Cambridge/Guernsey County Visitors & Convention Bureau at 800-933-5480 or log onto www.VisitGuernseyCounty.com .

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