

TALKING TOURISM

January 3, 2026

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 have on this region.

Official 2026 Travel Guide Available

The newly printed 2026 Visitors & Convention Bureau's Official Travel Guide is now available. The 44-page free guide displays the area's unique outdoor recreation, historic downtown must-see points of interest, fun events, details on neighboring villages, cultural venues, flavorful dining establishments and much more.

As the nation celebrates and recognizes America's 250th anniversary this year, the Cambridge/Guernsey County guide pays special homage to the county's roots. Guernsey County's story takes its name from the Isle of Guernsey, homeland of the early settlers who brought their spirit to Ohio.

"Guernsey County blends rich history with small-town charm. As we celebrate America's 250th anniversary, we proudly honor our past while welcoming visitors to be part of its continuing story. With endless trails, shimmering lakes and unforgettable encounters, this is where life gives way to play, discovery and wide-open skies," said Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB Executive Director Debbie Robinson.

Residents are encouraged to stop by the Tourist Information Center in downtown Cambridge to pick up copies for family reunions, weddings, or for visiting friends and relatives. The guide is distributed throughout the year to groups, area businesses, events, attractions, lodging properties, state travel centers and individuals in the coming year.

GAP Deadline

Is your Guernsey County nonprofit organization, event or business looking for support to boost tourism and increase visibility? The GAP program is here to help! Designed to support area tourism partners in marketing efforts, this program offers grants that assist with the advertising and promotion of activities that drive lodging occupancy during key travel periods. Additionally, GAP helps create positive, image-building publicity for the area.

For 13 years now, the VCB has facilitated grants ranging from a minimum of \$500 to \$5,000. The grants are contingent upon the amount of overnight stays the event, project or program generates. The deadline to submit applications is February 1, 2026. Grants will be awarded March 27, 2026. Grant applications may be found on the VCB's website at www.visitguernseycountry.com/tourism-partners/grants/.

2026 Calendar of Events

A full list of our events is located at VistGuernseyCounty.com. Before attending any event, we suggest that you call before you go.

January 1	Reading Dragons Where's Waldo Scavenger Hunt, All Branches, Guernsey County District Public Library
January 1	New Year's Day Hike, Salt Fork State Park
January 7, 14, 21, 28	Tai Chi, Crossroads Branch, Guernsey County District Public Library

January 9 & 30	Pennyroyal Opera House Bluegrass Concert, Fairview
January 9,16,23,30	Karaoke/Open Mic, Southgate Lounge
January 11	2026 Cambridge Bridal Show, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
January 13	Guernsey County America 250-Ohio Meeting, Guernsey County Administration Building
January 15	Evergreen Tree Program, Salt Fork State Park Eco-Discovery Center
January 15, 20	Downtown Book Club, Downtown Branch, Guernsey County District Public Library
January 16	Kids' Bead Program, Byesville Branch, Guernsey County District Public Library
January 17	Brian Sweeney Music, Southgate Lounge
January 17-18	Heritage Gun Show, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
January 18	Run Your Ice Off 5K, Cambridge Intermediate School
January 23-25	2026 Deerassic Coyote Tournament, Deerassic Education Park
January 24	Book Tasting, Crossroads Branch, Guernsey County District Public Library
January 24	Backbone Acoustic, Southgate Lounge
January 31	Snow Social Networking Party & Dance, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center

To learn more about the VCB, area events, and activities, visit the Cambridge/Guernsey County VCB office at 627 Wheeling Avenue, Suite 200 in downtown Cambridge, call 740-432-2022, email info@VisitGuernseyCounty.com, or log onto VisitGuernseyCounty.com.

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