

TALKING TOURISM

October 4, 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 share information about upcoming events, area attractions, bureau services and projects, and, most importantly, the tremendous impact the travel and tourism industry has on this region.

Pet-friendly locations are a growing travel trend

The demand for pet-friendly destinations (hotels, vacation rentals, restaurants, attractions) has grown significantly in the last decade. What was once a travel niche is one of the most popular and expected parts of all travel, and it will only continue to grow in the coming years with pet-specific travel packages and specialized care options for pets.

Did you know?

- 78% of pet owners travel with their pet in the United States.
- 52% of travelers base their travel plans on accommodating pets.
- 58% of people would prefer to travel with their pet over a friend or family member.
- Approximately 75% of luxury, mid-scale or economy hotels allow pets.
- 43% of people look for a destination with hiking options and fresh air for pet travel.
- Dogs make up 58% of pets traveling around the world.
- The keyword “pet travel” is searched nearly 19 million times in the United States.
- 2 million pets fly annually (Alaska Airlines is the most popular pet-friendly airline).
- Pet travel is a \$2.25 billion market (2025).

(Sources: Dogster.com, aol.com)

More travelers are bringing their four-legged family members along for the adventure, and we want to help them feel welcome in Guernsey County! The VCB has created a pet-friendly resource at <https://visitguernseycounty.com/dog-friendly/> and would love to add even more local options. If your business, event or tourism-related site welcomes pets, please let us know so we can share that information with visitors planning their stay. Email Karen Castello at destination@visitguernseycounty.com with details about your pet-friendly offerings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 2-4	Paul Bunyan Show, Guernsey Conty Fairgrounds, Old Washington
Oct. 2	Campfire Stories, Salt Fork State Park Eco-Discovery Center
Oct. 2,9,23, 30	Pennyroyal Bluegrass Concerts, Fairview
Oct. 3	Cambridge Main Street Fall Festival, Downtown Cambridge
Oct. 3	Wooden Witch Hat Craft, Yolo Winery
Oct. 3	Chili Cook Off, Yolo Winery
Oct. 3,10, 24,31	Hosak's Cave Hike, Salt Fork State Park
Oct. 3,9,10,16,17,23,24,30	Ghost Hunt! Investigate the Paranormal, Kennedy Stone House, Salt Fork State Park
Oct. 6	Cambridge Area Chamber of Commerce October Power Lunch, Bear's Den
Oct. 7 & 8	North Pole's Got Talent Auditions, Cambridge Performing Arts Center
Oct. 9 – 31	Guernsey County Courthouse Halloween Light Show
Oct. 10	Ohio Author's Festival, Guernsey County District Public Library, Byesville
Oct. 10	Living Free Events Concert, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
Oct. 11	Byesville First Annual Octoberfest, Patriot Park
Oct. 15	Eco-Discovery Center Family Program, Salt Fork State Park

Oct. 16 & 17	Seneca Halloween Weekend Trick or Treat, Seneca Lake Park
Oct. 16	Next Stop Comedy, Guernsey Brewhouse
Oct. 16-18, 23-25	Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Cambridge Performing Arts Center
Oct. 17	Halloween Party, Salt Fork State Park Campground
Oct. 17	Coffee & Cars Guernsey County, Advance Auto Parts
Oct. 17	HalloWine Party at Yolo Winery
Oct. 22	2026 Witch's Brew Hidden Treasures, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
Oct. 24	Boo Bash, Guernsey County District Public Library, Byesville
Oct. 24	8 th Annual NMRA Division 6 Train Show, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
Oct. 24	Fall Foliage Hike, Salt Fork State Park Stonehouse Nature Trail Parking Lot
Oct. 24	Treats on the Trail, Guernsey County Trail Head, Lore City
Oct. 24	Monser Mash on Main Street and Halloween Party, Byesville
Oct. 29	Teen Trick-or-Treat, Guernsey County District Public Library, Cambridge
Oct. 29	Ohio Farm Transition Network One-Day Training, Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center
Oct. 31	Byesville Trick or Treating and Halloween Parade

A full list of our events is located at VisitGuernseyCounty.com. Before attending any event, we suggest you call ahead. ***For a complete listing of events, log on to VisitGuernseyCounty.com.***

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 destination@VisitGuernseyCounty.com; or log on to VisitGuernseyCounty.com.