



# THINGS TO DO IN DAYTON



Listed below are some things to do located in and around the Dayton area. Please note: This is not a comprehensive listing of activities. The University of Dayton does not endorse any particular activity.

## AULLWOOD AUDUBON CENTER AND FARM

[web4.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/aullwood](http://web4.audubon.org/local/sanctuary/aullwood)

Aullwood Audubon Center and Farm, an Audubon Center for environmental education and sustainable agriculture, provides activities that increase understanding and preservation of the planet by children and adults through education, research and recreation.

**Hours of operation:** Monday through Saturday  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday 1-5 p.m. Closed most school holidays.

**Cost:** \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 2-18. Children under 2 are free. Members of Friends of Aullwood and the National Audubon Society receive free admission with membership card. There may be an additional cost for special events.

## BOONSHOFT MUSEUM OF DISCOVERY

[boonshoftmuseum.org](http://boonshoftmuseum.org)

The Boonshoft Museum of Discovery is the premier regional provider of interactive science learning experiences. These experiences enrich the lives of children and adults and promote a broad understanding of the world through anthropology, geology, paleontology and biology collections.

**Hours of operation:** Monday through Saturday  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday Noon-5 p.m.

**Cost:** \$13 for adults, \$11 for seniors, \$10 for ages 3-16. Members and children under 3 are free.

## CARILLON HISTORICAL PARK

[daytonhistory.org/destinations/carillon-historical-park](http://daytonhistory.org/destinations/carillon-historical-park)

Carillon Historical Park immerses you in the region's history – from Dayton's founding in 1796 through two centuries of expansion, industrialism and innovation. Learn about revolutionary achievements while strolling through the park's 25 historical buildings and interacting with hundreds of artifacts.

**Hours of operation:** Monday through Saturday  
9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday Noon-5 p.m.

**Cost:** \$8 for ages 18-59, \$7 for seniors, \$5 for ages 3-17. Dayton History members and children under 3 are free.

## CARRIAGE HILL METROPARK HISTORICAL FARM

[metroparks.org/Parks/CarriageHill/HistoricalFarm.aspx](http://metroparks.org/Parks/CarriageHill/HistoricalFarm.aspx)

Carriage Hill MetroPark Historical Farm re-creates the experiences of a 19th century farm. Observe 1880s home life, visit the farm animals and learn about the farm's history.

**Hours of operation:** Hours vary by park facility and time of year. Visit the Carriage Hill website for specific information.

**Cost:** Free

## CINCINNATI PREMIUM OUTLETS

[www.premiumoutlets.com/outlets/outlet.asp?id=79](http://www.premiumoutlets.com/outlets/outlet.asp?id=79)

Find great deals on 100 top brands, including Coach, Guess, J.Crew, Michael Kors, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Samsonite and Under Armour.

**Hours of operation:** Monday through Saturday  
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Hours may change on holidays.

**Cost:** Free

## COX ARBORETUM

[metroparks.org/Parks/CoxArboretum/Home.aspx](http://metroparks.org/Parks/CoxArboretum/Home.aspx)

This 189-acre facility allows visitors to escape among trees, shrubs, specialty gardens, mature forests, prairies and the native-Ohio Butterfly House. The arboretum hosts year-round educational programs that teach children and adults about sustainable horticulture, plant science and conservation.

**Hours of operation:** Hours vary by park facility and time of year. Visit the Cox Arboretum website for specific information.

**Cost:** Free

## THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

[daytonartinstitute.org](http://daytonartinstitute.org)

The Dayton Art Institute's permanent collection contains more than 26,000 objects, spanning 5,000 years of art history. At any given time, The Dayton Art Institute's galleries display about 1,000 works from the permanent collection.

**Hours of operation:** Tuesday through Saturday  
11 a.m.-5 p.m. Extended hours until 8 p.m. on Thursdays. Sunday Noon-5 p.m. Closed Mondays and the following holidays: Easter Sunday, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

### DAYTON DRAGONS MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

[daytondragons.com](http://daytondragons.com)

The Dayton Dragons are the Midwest League affiliate of the Cincinnati Reds and play a 70-game home schedule at beautiful Fifth Third Field in downtown Dayton, easily accessible from Interstate 75.

**Hours of operation:** Check the Dayton Dragons website for game times.

**Cost:** Cost varies. Check the Dayton Dragons website for specific information.

### DAYTON INTERNATIONAL PEACE MUSEUM

[daytonpeacemuseum.org](http://daytonpeacemuseum.org)

Educational programs and exhibits at the Dayton International Peace Museum are nonpartisan and feature themes of nonviolent conflict resolution, social justice issues, international relations and peace. The museum honors Dayton's history as the center for the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, and strong civic pride is maintained in the museum's programming.

**Hours of operation:** Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday 1-5 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**Cost:** Free

### THE GREENE TOWN CENTER

[thegreene.com](http://thegreene.com)

The Greene is Dayton's premier destination for open-air shopping, dining and entertainment. Stroll The Greene's cobblestone streets and stop in at top retailers such as Ann Taylor, Nordstrom Rack and Teavana. More than two dozen restaurants and specialty food shops are available, as well as a movie theater and comedy club.

**Hours of operation:** Monday through Saturday 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday Noon-6 p.m.

**Cost:** Free

### JOHN BRYAN STATE PARK

[johnbryan.org](http://johnbryan.org)

John Bryan State Park contains a remarkable limestone gorge cut by the Little Miami River, designated as a state and national scenic river. A portion of the gorge itself is designated as a national natural landmark. Camping, picnic areas, a day lodge, hiking trails, fishing, rock climbing and other activities are available.

**Hours of operation:** Dawn to dusk

**Cost:** Free

### THE LOFT THEATRE

[victoriatheatre.com/venues/the-loft-theatre](http://victoriatheatre.com/venues/the-loft-theatre)

The Loft Theatre is home to The Human Race Theatre Company and offers an intimate theater experience, with the furthest seat in the house only 20 feet away from the actors.

**Hours of operation:** Visit The Loft Theatre website for a listing of shows and events.

**Cost:** Ticket prices vary. Visit The Loft Theatre website for specific information.

### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE U.S. AIR FORCE

[www.nationalmuseum.af.mil](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil)

Dayton's legacy as the birthplace of aviation is preserved and celebrated at the National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, the oldest and largest military aviation museum in the world. More than 360 aerospace vehicles and missiles are on display, along with thousands of historical items and exhibits that bring history to life.

**Hours of operation:** Daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Some exhibits have special hours.

**Cost:** Free; there is a charge for the digital 3-D theater and flight simulators.

### THE NEON

[neonmovies.com](http://neonmovies.com)

Check out the latest indie, international and local interest films at The Neon, located near the Oregon District in downtown Dayton.

**Hours of operation:** For showtimes, call 937-222-SHOW (7469) or visit The Neon website.

**Cost:** Prices vary based on the patron's age, as well as the day and time of the show. Visit The Neon website for specific information.

### OREGON HISTORIC DISTRICT

[oregondistrict.org](http://oregondistrict.org)

The Oregon Historic District offers residential areas, fine dining, neighborhood pubs and unique shops — all located within 12 city blocks that once served as Dayton's first neighborhood. The district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### PATTERSON HOMESTEAD

[daytonhistory.org/destinations/patterson-homestead-2](http://daytonhistory.org/destinations/patterson-homestead-2)

This historic house museum provides a glimpse into the lives of Dayton's influential Patterson family, who lived on the site from 1804 to 1904. The Federal style house, constructed between 1810 and 1850, was originally the home of Revolutionary War veteran Col. Robert Patterson and his wife, Elizabeth Lindsay Patterson.

**Hours of operation:** Thursday through Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

**Cost:** Free; a \$2 donation is suggested.

### PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR HOUSE

[daytonhistory.org/destinations/paul-laurence-dunbar-house-historic-site](http://daytonhistory.org/destinations/paul-laurence-dunbar-house-historic-site)

Born to former slaves in 1872, Paul Laurence Dunbar was the first African-American poet to earn international acclaim. Dunbar purchased this home in 1904 and lived there until his death in 1906. He completed his last works in the house, which appears today much as it did at the time of the poet's death.

**Hours of operation:** Contact Dayton History at 937-293-2841 for tour information.

**Cost:** \$6 for adults, \$3 for children. Members of Dayton History or the Ohio Historical Society are free.

### RIVERSCAPE METROPARK

[metroparks.org/Parks/Riverscape/Home.aspx](http://metroparks.org/Parks/Riverscape/Home.aspx)

This popular park, found along the Great Miami River in the heart of downtown Dayton, is a hub of activities — from concerts and community events to bike rentals. RiverScape is situated at the confluence of several paved bikeways.

**Cost:** Free for the park; metered parking is free weekdays after 6 p.m. and all day on the weekends.

### SCHUSTER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

[schustercenter.org](http://schustercenter.org)

The Benjamin & Marian Schuster Performing Arts Center, located at Second and Main streets on the Avenue of the Arts, is a landmark facility for Dayton's arts and cultural life. It includes the 2,300-seat Mead Theatre, the 150-seat Mathile Theatre and Citilites Restaurant & Bar.

**Hours of operation:** Visit the Schuster Center website for a listing of shows and events.

**Cost:** Ticket prices vary. Visit the Schuster Center website for specific information.

### 2ND STREET MARKET

[metroparks.org/Parks/SecondStreetMarket/Home.aspx](http://metroparks.org/Parks/SecondStreetMarket/Home.aspx)

More than 370,000 people visit the 2nd Street Market each year. It is a favorite place for many Miami Valley residents to go year-round for locally grown meat and produce, as well as homemade food and craft items.

**Hours of operation:** Thursday and Friday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

### SUNWATCH INDIAN VILLAGE/ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK

[sunwatch.org](http://sunwatch.org)

SunWatch is a reconstructed Fort Ancient Native American village located next to the Great Miami River. The dwellings and site plan of the 3-acre site are based on archeological excavations sponsored by the Dayton Society of Natural History. The open-air museum includes reconstructed dwellings, a plaza and gardens, and an interpretive center.

**Hours of operation:** Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday Noon-5 p.m. Closed Mondays.

**Cost:** \$6 for adults, \$4 for age 60+ and ages 6-16. Members and children under 6 are free.

### VICTORIA THEATRE

[victoriatheatre.com](http://victoriatheatre.com)

Originally opened in 1866, the theater at First and Main streets in downtown Dayton has been known by many names, but has always provided the area with a rich performing arts culture. Today, the Victoria Theatre continues to host a variety of events and shows for all ages.

**Hours of operation:** Visit the Victoria Theatre website for a listing of shows and events.

**Cost:** Ticket prices vary. Visit the Victoria Theatre website for specific information.

### WEGERZYN GARDENS METROPARK

[metroparks.org/Parks/WegerzynGarden/Home.aspx](http://metroparks.org/Parks/WegerzynGarden/Home.aspx)

Stroll through formal gardens and the Children's Discovery Garden. In addition to developed horticultural facilities, Wegerzyn Gardens MetroPark contains an outstanding example of a swamp forest, mature woodlands along the Stillwater River, a meadow and two planted prairies. The Marie Aull Nature Trail features a variety of trees and wildflowers and provides many opportunities for spotting native birds and wildlife.

**Hours of operation:** Hours vary by park facility and time of year. Visit the Wegerzyn Gardens website for specific information.

**Cost:** Free

### WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY NUTTER CENTER

[nuttercenter.com](http://nuttercenter.com)

There's always something going on at the Nutter Center. Offerings have included charity galas, craft fairs, culinary events, monster truck rallies, rock concerts and many more.

**Hours of operation:** Visit the Nutter Center website for a listing of shows and events.

**Cost:** Ticket prices vary. Visit the Nutter Center website for specific information.