

## Itinerary #6 – Southwestern Ohio

Starting in Ripley, this 56-mile trip will take you all the way to Cincinnati, situated near the Indiana state border. Begin your trip on US Route 52 by exploring Ripley’s many national landmarks and historical markers. Continue along 52 and have a “divine experience” in Utopia along the way! When you finally reach Cincinnati, close your trip by enjoying an amusement park, a cultural event or delve into more history!

Sites to see & things to do (listed from east to west)

Attraction	Description
Rankin House National Historic Marker Ripley, Ohio	This National Historic Landmark was John Rankin’s home and refuge to thousands of slaves making their way to freedom. It was here that Harriet Beecher Stowe heard the escaping slave's story that became the basis for part of her famous work, <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> . Contact: 937-392-1627. <a href="http://www.ohiohistory.org/places/rankin">www.ohiohistory.org/places/rankin</a>
John F. Parker House – National Historic Landmark Ripley, Ohio	The Parker House was home to abolitionist, John Parker, a freed slave who purchased his freedom and settled on the land in 1845. He made forays across the Ohio River to aid escaping slaves. Contact: 937.392.4188. <a href="http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/underground/oh2.htm">www.cr.nps.gov/nr/travel/underground/oh2.htm</a>
Signal House Ripley, Ohio	A part of the Underground Railroad, this house was signaled to by John Rankin, famous Underground Railroad conductor. Built in the 1830s in Greek Italinatate style, the home is now a bed and breakfast. Contact: 937.392.1640 <a href="http://www.thesignalhouse.com">www.thesignalhouse.com</a>
Ohio Tobacco Museum Ripley, Ohio	The Ohio Tobacco Museum was established as a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of tobacco farming history. Historic facts and photographs are abundant in the museum. Everything from information about Native American tobacco usage to Civil War photographs of soldiers rolling their own cigarettes. Contact: 937-392-9410.
Village of Utopia Utopia, Ohio	Utopia was founded in 1844 by a pre-communist group of 250 Frenchmen who were members of the Fourierite Association. They shared everything in common – work, pay, rest and living conditions, etc. Most of the group gave up after two years.
Crooked Run Nature Preserve Clermont County, Ohio	Near Chilo, the Preserve features a unique 77-acre natural area fronting a large backwater estuary off the Ohio River. The preserve includes a scenic, one-mile easy nature trail; observation blinds and tower; Ohio River vistas and a pond. <a href="http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/odnr/dnap/location/crooked_run.html">www.dnr.state.oh.us/odnr/dnap/location/crooked_run.html</a>
Chilo Lock #34 Park Clermont County, Ohio	This 14-acre park overlooks the Ohio River at the site of an old Corps of Engineers wicket dam location. Facilities include picnic areas, shelters, a boat ramp dock, volleyball, playground, basketball and horseshoes.
Capt. Anthony Meldahl Lock and Dam Clermont County, Ohio	This lock and dam offers a good opportunity to illustrate the development of river control by comparing this facility with Lock #34 at Chilo.
Edgington Mound Clermont County, Ohio	Placed on the National Register in 1974, it is believed the Adena Culture built Edgington Mound during the time period 1000 B.C. to 400 A.D.

William H. Zimmer Nuclear Power Station Clermont County, Ohio	This is the first major power plant initial designed and built as a nuclear facility to be converted to a coal-fired operation.
Ulysses S. Grant Birthplace Clermont County, Ohio	This restored one-story, three-room cottage built in 1817 was next to the tannery where Grant's father worked. The small cottage is furnished with period items. Contact: 513.553.4911.
Loveland Castle Loveland, Ohio	Loveland Castle is a unique architectural treasure, built in the Normanesque style by the late Harry D. Andrews. It is a one-fifth scale actual 16 <sup>th</sup> Century medieval castle built over 51 years. Contact: 513-683-4686. <a href="http://www.lovelandcastle.com/">www.lovelandcastle.com/</a>
Coney Island Amusement Park Cincinnati, Ohio	Established in the late 1800s, Coney Island Amusement Park holds a unique place in the industry as one of the few old parks to never close. Unlike most other parks of the era, it refused to die and is still entertaining visitors today. Contact: 513-232-8230. <a href="http://conevislandpark.com/">http://conevislandpark.com/</a>
Pendleton Station Cincinnati, Ohio	This restored railroad depot now serves as a community and art center.
Sawyer Point Park Cincinnati, Ohio	Developed in 1988 as part of Cincinnati's 200 <sup>th</sup> anniversary, Bicentennial Commons at Sawyers Point features a whimsical dancing pig's gateway sculpture and a scale model of the Ohio River. <a href="http://aolsvc.digitalcity.com/cincinnati/entertainment/venue.adp?sbid=112742">http://aolsvc.digitalcity.com/cincinnati/entertainment/venue.adp?sbid=112742</a>
John A. Roebling Suspension Bridge Cincinnati, Ohio	This suspension bridge was built in 1866 and designed by engineer John A. Roebling, famous for the Brooklyn Bridge. Constructed twelve years prior, it was in Cincinnati that Roebling perfected his designs used in the famous New York City bridge.
Harrison Tomb Hamilton County, Ohio	The burial site of William Henry Harrison, ninth U.S. President and War of 1812 hero. <a href="http://www.ohiohistory.org/places/harrison/">http://www.ohiohistory.org/places/harrison/</a>