



Located in North Central Ohio, between Sandusky and Downtown Cleveland, Lorain County features more than 25 miles of Lake Erie shoreline, shopping, fabulous restaurants and wineries, renowned museums and art galleries, and rich Underground Railroad history. Lorain County specializes in exciting tour options featuring these things as well as education locations, eco tourism and many fascinating faith-based locations. Together with our convenient affordable lodging and cities ranging from funky, eclectic college-town to the nautical shores of Lake Erie, Lorain County is a fresh, new choice for your next group tour destination.



RONA PRODUCTIONS

Getting Here



Highway Systems through Lorain County:
Ohio Turnpike, I-90, I-480, US Route 6 & 20,
State Route 2, 18, 58, & 83

Distance (in miles):

Cleveland: 30	Cincinnati: 257
Sandusky: 30	Niagara Falls: 240
Toledo: 80	Chicago: 310
Columbus: 151	Washington D.C.: 390
Detroit: 142	New York City: 480
Pittsburgh: 150	Louisville: 320
Buffalo: 220	



JON FORBES

Top Left: Dedication of Underground Railroad Monument and Reflective Garden on the Black River in Lorain, Martin Luther King Jr. Park in Oberlin, Westwood Cemetery, shopping in Oberlin and Allen Art Museum

Tour Operator Services

Preplanned & customized itineraries, photos, welcome packets including Visitors Guides & event calendars, maps, step-on guide service

Economic Lodging in Lorain County

Holiday Inn Elyria/Lorain, Country Inn & Suites, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Red Roof Inn, Oberlin Inn. New properties slated for 08-09 (call for details!)

Nearby Attractions

Cleveland, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cedar Point

Shopping

Olde Avon Village, Jamie's Flea Market, Oberlin shops and galleries, nautical Vermilion, African imported goods, arts and fabrics

Restaurants

Overlooking Lake Erie, in historical villages, fine dining, ethnic, soul food, family and buffets

Performance Halls

Stocker Arts Center, Lorain Palace Theatre, Oberlin Conservatory

Five Wineries

Fabulous Lake Erie and northern Ohio wines

Parks

Findley State Park, Lorain County Metro Parks, Lakeview Beach—a premier beach on Lake Erie with indoor viewing facilities and historic rose garden

Outdoor Recreation

Biking, golf, fishing, hiking, lawn bowling, kayaking, disc golf, boating

Museums and Art Galleries

Oberlin College's Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin Heritage Center, Firelands Association for the Visual Arts, Ginko Gallery and Studios, Beth K. Stocker Art Gallery

Annual Events

Juneteenth Celebrations, Arts Festivals, Underground Railroad-related events, International Festival, African drumming and dance

Tours

Eco-tours, Ethnic church tours, Underground Railroad, faith-based, mystery

On the Trail to Freedom Underground Railroad Tour

DAY ONE

9:30am FIRST CHURCH IN OBERLIN

Built in 1842 and included in the National Register of Historic Places, First Church served as the meeting site for the first Anti-Slavery Society. Funeral services were held at First Church for a four-year-old runaway slave child, who is now buried in Oberlin. Also the site of the memorial service for John Copeland and Shields Green of Oberlin who were hanged for their participation in John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry.

10:30am OBERLIN HERITAGE CENTER

Tour the Shurtleff/Monroe House-home of two noted abolitionists, The Little Red Schoolhouse-Oberlin's first public, integrated school. Tour the Jewett House-listed on National Register of Historic Places. The tour also includes an exhibit on the development of aluminum.

12pm LUNCH at unique local eatery customized to your group's needs. Choices include special catered lunch at local church, soul food restaurant, Italian restaurant or traditional American fare. African storytelling can be arranged for mealtime entertainment.



1:30pm DRIVE-BY TOUR OF OBERLIN

Enjoy a city tour of Oberlin as you view monuments, parks and homes significant to the Underground Rail-

road. Includes stops at the Underground Railroad Sculpture, Martin Luther King Jr. Park, and an optional stop to view Oberlin's Underground Railroad quilt.

2:30pm WESTWOOD CEMETERY

Here lie former slaves, abolitionists and many who have become known as Oberlin's faces of change. The natural beauty and park-like atmosphere combine with its rich history for a reflective and ethereal look into the spirit of the Abolitionist movement.

3:30pm SHOPPING IN OBERLIN

Oberlin has a variety of unique shops that feature imported African merchandise: oils and incense, nag champa, Afrikan masks, Afrikan antiques, textiles, tapestries, rugs and ethnic skin care; unusual clothing, jewelry, accessories, unique, contemporary, ethnic designs; a working fiberarts studio and art galleries.

6pm DINNER AT LOCAL HOTEL

Dinner at local hotel. Performance or entertainment may be arranged for your group.

DAY TWO

9am BREAKFAST AT HOTEL

10am ALLEN MEMORIAL ART MUSEUM, OBERLIN

World-famous college art museum includes important and exciting works by African and African-American artists.



11:30am LUNCH ON THE LAKE AND ROSE GARDEN TOUR,

Tour the spectacular, restored Lakeview Park and Rose Garden in Lorain. Dining includes stunning views of Lake Erie, documented to be the last stop to freedom in Canada for many fugitive slaves.

1pm UNDERGROUND RAILROAD MONUMENT AND REFLECTIVE GARDEN, BLACK RIVER LANDING

On Saturdays, in warm weather months, there is also the opportunity to browse a farmer's market here. Gorgeous views of the Bascule Lift Bridge.

1:45pm BLACK RIVER HISTORICAL MUSEUM OR VISIT A LOCAL WINERY FOR WINE TASTING

3pm BURRELL HOMESTEAD

Take a tour of this 1820 stately brick house that served as a branch school for the Oberlin Collegiate Institute and later was a station on the Underground Railroad. Home is now operated by the Lorain County Metro Parks.

Please note: Above is a sample itinerary. The Lorain County Visitors Bureau can customize an itinerary based on the needs of the group.

Contact:

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