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# Passport to Cleveland

## Passport to Cleveland

### UPDATE

Thank you to all the Museums that participated in my "Passport to Cleveland" project. There are still "passports" available to those who want to participate. The website will be updated immediately in the event that any of the Museum's on the site decide not to participate anymore. Thanks for your interest in "Passport to Cleveland."

### Welcome to Passport to Cleveland

There are over 80 museums in Northeast Ohio, many of which contribute to the unique cultural landscape that is Cleveland. The objective of this site is to connect museum-lovers to museums in the Cleveland area. Some of these museums you may have been to already, some may be museums you've never heard of. The point is to find a museum that you may have overlooked (or one you want to return to), get your "Passport to Cleveland" book stamped, and enjoy the museum. I will be attempting to enlist museums in the coming months to participate in this program. So, please check back often to see which museums will actually stamp your "passport." After you have collected enough stamps to fill your passport mail it back to me and I will send you a "Passport to Cleveland" button to say "Thanks!"

### As seen on "Cleveland Stay-at-Home Dads Examiner"

You can view Lance Koehnen's blog about *Passport to Cleveland* and other topics of interest for parents by visiting [Cleveland Stay-at-Home Dads Examiner](#).

### About Me

I am a Graduate Student at Cleveland State University working on a degree in Museum Studies. I have designed "Passport to Cleveland" as a way to research the relationship of viral museum marketing and museum attendance. I am not affiliated with any organization and am not receiving any compensation for this site or the information provided herein. Thank you.

### Find me on...

To become my friend on MySpace click on the link below

<http://www.myspace.com/passporttocleveland>

To join my cause on Facebook search for Passport to Cleveland at

<http://www.facebook.com/>



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### Getting your Passport

Do you want a Passport to Cleveland booklet?

YES- Send me my FREE Passport to Cleveland booklet

\*To get you Passport to Cleveland please include your name and address and your passport will be mailed to you shortly.

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### The International Women's Air & Space Museum

**IWASM** (click on the link to locate on a map) is located in the terminal of the Burke Lakefront Airport. This is a FREE museum. The museum staff is friendly and helpful. To get your "passport" stamped simply talk to Heather or Michelle at the front desk of the IWASM gift shop.

Room 165, Burke Lakefront Airport,  
1501 N. Marginal Rd., Cleveland, OH  
44114

phone: 216-623-1111

Hours: M-Sat; 10am-4pm (the museum is actually open earlier/later than office hours).



Click on the above logo to go the IWASM website.

### Points of interest

The permanent exhibits exemplify the many contributions made by women in the fields of air and space. You can see Katherine Wright's (sister of the famous Wright Brothers) dress from when she visited President Taft at the White House, Jackie Cochran's cosmetics, and much much more. This is a kid friendly museum with few things for kids to get in trouble touching. There is also an interactive "Living and Working in Space" exhibit for children complete with kid-sized astronaut outfits. FYI- the astro suits are not left out, due to the possibility of theft, but can be obtained by asking in the gift shop.

### Special Exhibit

"Flight to Fame: The Life & Legacy of Amelia Earhart" is the museum's latest special exhibit and will be going on from March 13-September 30. This exhibit tells the story of Amelia Earhart and the mystery surrounding her disappearance. Along with interesting photographs you can see one of Amelia's flight suits, her nurse's uniform from WWI, and even a lock of Amelia's hair.

### Parking

There is parking available in the lot in front of the airport for \$6.00. Be careful though, there are two entrances to the parking lot. One booth has an attendant and the other is an automated machine which only accepts exact change. If you are having trouble finding the booth with the attendant simply park along the curb in front of the airport and enter the building nearest the blue mailbox and ask the ladies in the office to direct you.

### IWASM Kids Club

IWASM has a FREE kids club! Visit the [IWASM Kids Club](#) website for more information.

## Gift Shop

The IWASM gift shop has all your aviation needs. If you love planes, or know someone that does, you can't leave without taking home a piece of aviation history. The gift shop also carries signature IWASM attire for all those T Shirt-souvenir fans.

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### Cleveland Police Museum

CPM (click on the link to locate on a map) is located at the Justice Center. This is a FREE museum. To get your "passport" stamped go to the gift shop and ask someone behind the "museum employees only" half door.



Click on the logo above to go to the CPM website.

\*Justice Center  
Cleveland Police Headquarters  
First Floor  
1300 Ontario Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

phone: 216-623-5055

Hours: M-F; 10am-4pm

\*be sure to enter the Justice Center at the Ontario entrance that read "Police Department Headquarters" above the doors. Once inside make an immediate right. You do not need to check in with the guard at the desk.

### Points of Interest

If you are into the book series by [John Stark Bellamy](#) or read the book [Torso](#) by Steven Nickel you have to see this museum! During the latter half of the 1930s a series of gruesome murders took place. The killer was never found and the case of [The Kinsbury Run Murders](#) remain unsolved. Even though the murders happened over 70 years ago the story is still chilling. At the Cleveland Police Museum some of the victims death masks are on display (FYI—the photographs of the murder victims are a little graphic so use your parental discretion if you are bringing kids along).

Aside from the macabre, the Cleveland Police Museum also has interesting artifacts from when Eliot Ness came to Cleveland to work as the Director of Safety after locking up Al Capone in Chicago. Other points of interest include a Harley Davidson police motorcycle, information on Cleveland's K-9 unit, Cleveland's Mounted Police unit, confiscated weapons (including a home-made shot gun made out of metal pipes!), and a lot more.

### Special Interest

Cleveland has the oldest continuous mounted police unit in the U.S. The unit is comprised of 11 beautiful horses, [Fancy](#) is my favorite (maybe because she's the only girl or maybe because her pictures were just so darned cute on the website!) If you are interested in helping to save the [Cleveland Mounted Police](#) for future generations visit their website by clicking on the link for more information.

For Now, One Remains ... Help

**Save the  
Cleveland Mounted Police**



## Eliot Ness

To visit Eliot Ness's grave go to [Lakeview Cemetery](#) (it is a 13 minute drive from CPM, click on link to get directions from CPM).



Click on the logo above to go to LVC website.

## Parking

The closest lot to the Cleveland Police Museum is the [Ampco System Parking](#) lot located on Ontario 141 feet from the museum. The rates are steep (\$3.00/15 min; \$12.50/day) and I would recommend parking somewhere else and walking. Be careful when you decide to visit, though, any event downtown can make the parking rates jump up to ridiculous prices and you don't want to be stuck paying \$20.00 when you'll only need the spot for an hour. If you do not have any members of your group that have difficulties walking I would suggest parking at the lot located at Burke Lakefront Airport and walk. To make the most out of your visit (and your walk) you can do the *Passport to Cleveland* Downtown Walking Tour.

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### Western Reserve Historical Society

[WRHS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located in University Circle. Admission is \$8.50 for adults, \$7.50 for seniors, and \$5.00 for 17 and under. Tickets include admission into the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum, History Museum, and Library. To get your "passport" stamped ask at the ticket desk.

10825 East Blvd  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
phone: (216) 721-5722

Hours: CLOSED Sun & Mon  
Tues-Sat; 10am-5pm



Click on the above logo to go to the WRHS website.

### Points of Interest

If you like cars, motorcycles, and planes then you will relish a visit to the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum. I remember my first experience at Crawford well. I marveled at how much cars have changed since the Model-T and wondered how they were able to get those planes into the building. If you have kids they will LOVE the little model street in the basement gallery. It reminds me of the frontier town in COSI, it is not as interactive but still loads of fun!

As fascinating as the Crawford Auto-Aviation Museum is, my all time favorite is the History Museum. There are some very fun and interactive exhibits for kids, one of which is [WWII: Up Front and Personal](#). I really liked this exhibit and thought WRHS did a fantastic job of taking history out of books and into "real life." If you don't have kids, or don't like kids, but have fond memories of being a kid you may want to check out [Short & Sweet](#). This exhibit displays toys, clothes, and other childhood accoutrements from 1740-1960.

Of course, no visit to WRHS would be complete without a tour of the [Bingham-Hanna House](#). I highly recommend this tour. Every time I visit WRHS I take this tour and I never get tired of it. If you are like me, you don't live in a mansion and it's just nice to see what I'm missing.

WRHS has a couple other exhibits going on including rarely seen items from their collection. Click on the link to check out other [Current Exhibitions](#).

### Hale Farm and Village

[Hale Farm and Village](#) is a WRHS site and is a living history museum. For those of you who like Williamsburg you will enjoy this museum, partly because it is cheaper and closer to home. General admission is \$10 for adults and seniors and \$5 for kids under 12. Some of the highlights of this museum are the artisan demonstrations of candle dipping, glass blowing, basket weaving, blacksmithing, you get the idea. Since this site has varied hours depending on the season it is not part of *Passport to Cleveland*, BUT if you decide to go here instead of WRHS just include a picture of you and your family having fun there and that will count as your "stamp."

## Parking

WRHS has it's own lot and it's a good deal too! Just \$5 to park, other lots in the area charge by the hour. The last time I visited WRHS I entered in through the open gate and paid inside. This was during the winter time and so it might be different in spring-summer. If \$5 seems a little steep you can try your luck with meter parking, you might luck out. On the weekends the meters are free, so you might want to drive around the block at least once to see if there are any open spaces.

## Nearby Sites

If you are like me and enjoy the serene setting of old cemeteries than you may want to check out the [East Cleveland Township Cemetery](#).

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### Indian Museum of Lake County

The [Indian Museum](#) (click on link to locate on a map) is located within walking distance of Willoughby's Public Square. The museum staff is cheerful and capable of answering any questions you may have about the exhibits. To get you "passport" stamped speak to the person at the front desk.



Click on the logo above to go to the Indian Museum's website.

Technical Center-Building B  
25 Public Square  
Willoughby, OH 44096

Phone: 440-951-3813

Hours:

September-April

Monday-Friday 9a-4p

Saturday-Sunday 1p-4p

May-August

Monday-Friday 10a-4p

Saturday-Sunday 1p-4p

### Parking and Directions (Know before you go.)

My first trip out to the Indian Museum was a little confusing. I followed the directions I found on MapQuest only to be completely baffled when I came to a fork in the road on Public Square and wasn't sure which direction to go. The addresses on Public Square don't exactly go in any particular numeric order SO don't pay attention to the addresses. What you are going to do is drive south on US 20/Erie St. When you come to a fork in the road where US 20 veers to the right you will need to go straight onto River Street. You will drive on River Street for a few hundred feet before you come to another fork in the road. You will need to again drive straight (meaning the middle road) continuing on River Street. Don't be fooled by the "Road Closed" sign. By this time you should be able to see the "Indian Museum" sign on a post. Turn into the parking lot (Parking is FREE) past the sign and enter into the single windowless door with "Indian Museum" written on it.

### Points of Interest

For anyone that is attracted to Native American art and artifacts this museum is a necessary destination. The majority of the museum's exhibits on display come from the [Reeve Village Site in Lake County](#). Some of the artifacts found at the Reeve Village Site include pipes, bone awls, projectile points, and pottery shards. The museum also has a number of artifacts from Southwestern Indians including Kachina Dolls, Quill boxes, and baskets. There are also some artifacts from Alaskan Indians as well. If you look closely in each display case you can see little red pouches of tobacco placed there by an Ojibwa group to bless the artifacts.

Personally, this museum was a pleasant surprise! Though the museum is housed in an old school building, the walls vanish as you become mesmerized by viewing the collection. If you have never been to this museum I highly recommend making a visit, possibly the first of many.

### Gift Shop

The Indian Museum's gift shop is an exhibit in it's own right. The gift shop contains Native American artwork made by actual Indian artisans, not mass machine produced replicas. Aside from a few items, all pieces are handmade and affordable. The pieces are brought back from out West which excludes the "middle-man" making these pieces

affordable.

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### Bedford Historical Society

BHS (click on link to locate on map) is located off of Broadway Avenue in Bedford. This is a FREE museum. The museum has a friendly staff and enthusiastic volunteers all happy to answer questions about the collection. To get your "passport" stamped simply ask any of the people that are sure to greet you.

30 S Park St  
Bedford, OH 44146  
phone: (440) 232-0796

Hours: Monday & Wednesday, 7pm-10pm; Thursday 10am-4pm; 2nd Sunday of every month, 2pm-5pm



**Bedford Historical Society**  
**BEDFORD, OHIO**

Click on the above logo to go to the BHS website

### Points of interest

Not only does the Bedford Historical Society offer tours of their 4 historic buildings, these buildings are furnished with period pieces showing the different eras the house was occupied. The main building on South Park Street possess one of the largest book collection on Abe Lincoln second only to Springfield Illinois. The main building also contains a "life mask" of Abe Lincoln complete with casts of his hands. Apparently ol' "Honest Abe" thought future generations should see what he really looked like instead picturing him as he is depicted in one of the overly flattering paintings of the time. The collection also includes paintings from local artists, a vast library and archive, and more.

### Parking

Parking is FREE and is located off of Broadway Ave. Do not try to turn down S Park St, it is chained off. You will turn into the driveway with the sign reading "Parking for Bedford Historical Society." The sign is for the driveway next to the Broadway Church of Christ NOT the lovely Victorian home on the other side. Just in case this might be a little confusing to some, as it was me the first time I went you may want to look at the "street view" option on Google maps to get an idea of what I am talking about.

### Gift Shop

The gift shop, occupying a corner of the museum, only sells items made locally in Bedford. This includes, my personal favorite, the handmade bags made out of those pesky plastic grocery bags! All the items are affordable and you can feel great knowing your money was well spent on an item that will truly represent your visit.





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## Passport to Cleveland

### Ukrainian Museum-Archives

UMA (click on link to locate on a map) is located in Tremont near Lincoln Park. This is a FREE museum. This is a "self-service" "passport" stamping place. The "passport" stamp will be next to the sign-in book at the entrance.

1202 Kenilworth Ave  
Cleveland, OH 44113

phone: (216) 781-4329

Hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,  
Fridays and Saturdays -- 10 to 3 PM (or  
by prior appointment).



Click on the above logo to go to the UMA website.

### Points of Interest

The UMA really is the best kept secret of Tremont. The UMA is made up of a museum and archives. The archives are housed in a neat little building behind the museum and are available for researchers and students. The museum is located in the house in front. The house is currently being renovated but I assure you it is open! The UMA will be celebrating the completion of the museum renovation on June 13th. The museum holds a wealth of Ukrainian artifacts from the intricately beautiful Ukrainian eggs to items from WWII and immigration to the U.S. My favorite displays in the museum were the traditional clothing, musical instruments, ceramics, wood carvings, and, of course, the Ukrainian eggs.

### Parking

The museum does not have a parking lot of their own but you should find no problem finding a spot on the street. There are no parking meters so parking is free, just pay attention to parking restriction signs.

One of the best things about Tremont is that you can leave your car parked at UMA and find a variety of restaurants within walking distance.

### Gift Shop

The UMA gift shop has a wonderful selection of prints, jewelry, and those fabulous Ukrainian eggs. That's right, YOU can take home your very own Ukrainian egg! They are affordable and each one is unique.



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### Sunday Funday (and Saturdays too)

Since there are a few museums and historical societies that are only open on Sunday (and Saturday) I have grouped them together on the same page. I am hoping that by doing so it will help you "passport" holders plan your trips. Each museum should be looked at individually and get a stamp from each one, or until you fill your "passport."

### Westlake Historical Society

WHS (click on the link to locate on a map) is located across from Clague Park on Clague Road. Though on the map shows the WHS as being located between Belmont Dr. and Detroit Ave., the WHS is actually located between Hilliard Blvd and Concord Dr. This is a FREE museum. To get your "passport" stamped simply ask the volunteer working in the museum.

1171 Clague Road  
Westlake, OH 44145

phone: (440)-835-2726

Hours: Sunday 2-4 PM; or by appointment

Kid's Sunday is the 2nd Sunday of the month and is a free event for families.

Click on the picture to the right to go to the WHS website.



### Points of Interest

At the Westlake Historical Society you will discover who Clague Road is named after and why. The former home of the Clague family contains family artifacts, other artifacts from the 19th century, a library, and currently an exhibit displaying military uniforms including a Spanish American War uniform. You will also see artifacts from the [Isle of Man](#) (an island sandwiched in between [Northern Ireland](#) and [England](#)) because the Westlake Historical Society is the national depository for Isle of Man artifacts.

When I visited I had the wonderful opportunity to see the curator change the clothes on some of the mannequins. She informed me, and the other people on my guided tour, about how woman from the 19th century made homemade hair extensions from their own hair. They would save the loose hairs from their brush. When they collected enough hairs they would tie them at one end with a piece of silk thread, curl the hair with a hot iron, and fasten it to their hairline with bobby pins. She also told us that 19th century "dresses" weren't really dresses at all but rather a skirt and blouse which fastened together allowing the owner to get more life out of the clothing.

I am certain you will learn something new by visiting the Westlake Historical Society, I did!

### Parking

Parking is in the rear of the Westlake Historical Society. The lot is shared with Clague Park and the Clague Playhouse. It may be difficult to find an open space. I parked along the curb close to the back of the historical society where the entrance is.

### Gift Shop

The Westlake Historical Society gift shop contains Westlake commemorative books, cook books, ornaments, etc and Isle of Man pins and more all at an affordable price.

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## Twinsburg Historical Society

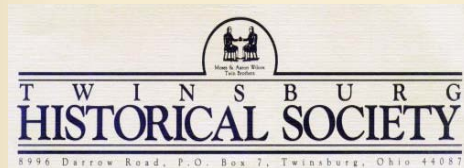
[THS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located just off of Rt 82 near Twinsburg Square. This is a FREE museum. THS maintains Freeman Barn, Riley House, and the main building of the historical society. You can get your "passport" stamped in the main building by one of the volunteers working that day and don't forget to sign the guest book.

8996 Darrow Rd.

Twinsburg, OH 44087

phone: (330) 487-5565

Hours: Last Sunday of every month;  
2pm-5pm



Click on the above logo to visit the THS website.

## Points of Interest

The building housing the Twinsburg Historical Society was once the Samuel Bissell Institute. Originally a two-story structured, the second story was removed and the roof was lowered after his neighbors sued him for, what they assumed to be, the unsafe condition of the building. Interestingly, the building belonging to the neighbor is no longer (once only 10 feet apart) and Sam Bissell's building is still standing and sound. At the THS you will learn about the Wilcox twins, where Twinsburg gets its name. And yes, Twinsburg is named Twinsburg because they were twins. Along with housing relics of the Wilcox twins the THS also houses other items of interest from Twinsburg's history. One of my favorite exhibits was the Dr. R. B. Chamberlin collection. Dr. Chamberlin was both a dentist and a physician, receiving his MD in 1904. The collection is complete with dentist and all sorts of neat looking medical instruments from the last century. The THS has much more to see including a collection of phonographs, roller organs, and victrolas. If you're lucky, you may even hear one play. Along with all the wonderful exhibits at the THS every Tuesday from 9am-12pm museum member volunteers work on incredible quilts, rugs, table runners, etc on the THS looms and quilting rack. Visitors are welcome to watch these ladies work and see how textiles were once made.

The THS is conveniently located off the highway and near restaurants of a wide variety so, if you are wanting to make a day of it, you could easily visit the museum and take your family out to dinner to complete afterwards.

## Parking & Gift Shop

Parking is free and is located in the lot next to the THS in front of the red barn.

At the THS gift shop (located in the center of the THS next to the guest book) you will find t-shirts, wooden miniature buildings, postcards, and books all about Twinsburg including a reprint of *Twinsburg History 1817-1917*.

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## Brunswick Area Historical Society

[BAHS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located on Laurel Road. Heritage Farms is the name of the site managed by the Brunswick Historical Society and includes several original buildings including a community garden. This is a FREE museum. Since the BAHS is comprised of a volunteer staff you will

4613 Laurel Road

P.O. Box 714

Brunswick, OH 44212


phone: 330-220-8352

Hours: Sunday 2pm-4pm, by appointment

need to call ahead to schedule your visit. only.



Click on the above image of Heritage Farm to go to the BAHS website

 NOT A PART OF PASSPORT TO CLEVELAND YET, but worth the visit all the same.

### Point of Interest

The Heritage Farm Museum is full of artifacts from Brunswick's history. Some of the items I found particularly interesting was the "Hair Wreath" made by one of the daughters of the famous Goodyear family. The museum also has on display ration tokens from WWII, Indian artifacts found around Brunswick, along with antique furniture and clothing. There is a nice open field behind Heritage Farm and you might want to finish off your relaxing visit with a little picnic.

### Parking

Parking is free and very uncomplicated! There are only handicapped spaces but since the tours are by appointment you will be fine to occupy the spot regardless of the "\$250" warning.

### Gift Shop

The BAHS gift shop contains mostly items from and about Brunswick including "[Brunswick](#)" published by Acadia and written by the President of the Brunswick Historical Society, Amber Dalakas.



### Olmsted Historical Society

[OHS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located within the Cleveland Metroparks Emerald Necklace near the Rocky River Nature Center. This is a FREE museum. The OHS manages the Frostville

24101 Cedar Point Rd  
North Olmsted, OH 44070

phone: (440) 779-0280

Museum consisting of 8 buildings.   
NOT YET A PASSPORT TO CLEVELAND MUSEUM.

Hours: Every Saturday Frostville is unofficially open but the buildings can be viewed from about 10am-1pm. Volunteers work every Saturday and will allow visitors to tour the houses.



Click on the above image of Frostville Church to visit the OHS website.



### Geauga County Historical Society Century Village


[GCHSCV](#) (click on the link to locate on a

14653 E Park St  
Burton, OH 44021

map) is located off of Rt. 87 and is near the Geauga County Fairgrounds. There is an admission for the Century Village tours. Children 5 and under are free, children 6-12 are \$5, and adults are \$7.

phone: (440) 834-1492

Hours: Saturday & Sunday; 1pm -3pm  
(April 15-November 15)

 NOT YET A PASSPORT TO CLEVELAND MUSEUM.



Click on the above logo to visit the GCHSCV website.

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### Kent State University Museum

**KSUM** (click on the link to locate on a map) is located on the campus of Kent State University. Admission prices are listed below:

General Admission	\$5.00
Senior Citizens	\$4.00
Students and Children (7-18 years old)	\$3.00
Children younger than 7 years old	Free
Students, Staff and Faculty with KSU I.D.	Free
Sundays	Free

Annual Pass \$25.00 (Pass includes 4 free guest visits per year)

E Main & S Lincoln St, Kent, OH 44242

phone: (330) 672-3450

#### Hours:

Monday and Tuesday: CLOSED  
 Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.  
 Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.  
 Sunday: Noon to 4:45 p.m.

To get your "passport" stamped simply ask at the welcome desk.



Click on the above logo to go to the KSUM website.

### Points of Interest

The Kent State University Museum is worth the drive no matter where you are coming from. You could easily spend all day in the numerous galleries. The museum boasts examples of 18th, 19th, and 20th century garments fantastically displayed in well constructed and lit galleries. The museum regularly rotates the collection on display so there are plenty of reasons to make repeat visits. Along with fantastic examples of fashion, the museum also exhibits various pieces of ceramics, silver, glass, and much more. Be sure to visit the museum's gift shop for your chance to take home a little "fashion."

### Parking

Parking is FREE and is available in the lot closest to the museum, just follow the Kent State University Museum signs. Park in the spaces with the signs saying "Kent State University Museum Parking Only." Be sure to make a note of your license plate or at least the make and model of your car. When you pay for your tickets you will need to "sign-in" your car info so you are not towed or ticketed.

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# Passport to Cleveland

## Passport to Cleveland

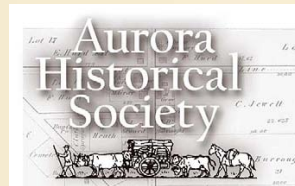
### The Aurora Historical Society

[AHS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located on the basement floor of the Aurora Memorial library. This is a FREE museum. If you come to the museum chances are the person you are going to come in contact will be the very hospitable Marcelle, ask her to stamp your "passport."

Located in the lower level of the Aurora Memorial Library  
115 East Pioneer Trail Aurora, OH 44202

phone: 330-995-3336

Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00 – 4:00  
or call/email to schedule a visit on another day/time.



Click on the above logo to go to the AHS website.

### Points of Interest

The Aurora Historical Society has a fantastic collection of garments, furniture, technology, and other interesting artifacts from Aurora's past. The earliest artifacts on exhibit are arrow heads and other Native American accoutrements. One really interesting exhibit housed in the museum is an account of the cheese and butter industry in Aurora. From around 1880-1914 Aurora was the cheese and butter capital of the world! Aurora shipped cheese all over the world. There were even cheese barons and locals were able to purchase groceries and other necessities with...CHEESE! The dairy industry was vibrant until a flood in 1913 hit Ohio killing an estimated 700 people. To help guide you through the museum, and Aurora's history, is a time line mounted on the wall.

### Parking and minor directions

Parking is FREE at this location and the lot is located next to the library. I think the building is actually called the "Aurora Performing Arts Center" and houses the Historical Society, Memorial Library, and Community Theater. Whatever the building is called you should be able to see "Aurora Historical Society" on the sign board in front. If you get directions from Google just be aware that Pioneer Trail is listed as having an East and West markation. In reality, when you approach Pioneer Trail from Chillicothe Rd. (OH-306) the street sign just says "Pioneer Trail." Whichever direction you are driving on Chillicothe you should turn down the street with the gazebo.

If you'd like to get better acquainted with Aurora ask Marcelle for a "Driving Tour" map.

### Gift Shop

The gift shop contains books, ornaments, and notecards featuring key landmarks in Aurora. One of the most interesting items for sale is an Aurora cookbook. The book contains recipes from historical restaurants and houses in Aurora.

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### Black River Historical Society

[BRHS](#) (click on the link to locate on a map) is located near Lake Erie and the mouth of the Black River. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. To get your "passport" stamped ask at the front desk.

309 W 5th St  
Lorain, OH 44052  
phone: (440) 245-2563

Hours:

Monday – Friday: 10:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.



Click on the above logo to visit the BRHS website.

### Points of Interest

The Black River Historical Society collects all things pertaining to the history of Lorain. The amount of objects has the potential of being overwhelming but well informed tour guides bring focus to the collection. The tour lasts about an hour and they give their last tour at 3:30pm. The tour guides are nice and seem flexible, so if you are short on time tell them what you are interested in and I'm sure they will oblige. Even though the historical society is housed in the home of Leonard M. Moore, Lorain's mayor from 1916-1918, this is not a "house museum." The first floor contains a time-line of objects. Milk bottles, telephones, cameras, and phonographs demonstrate how things have changed over time. The second floor of the historical society contains a "Lorain Hall of Fame" and includes such notable figures as Nobel-Prize winning author Toni Morrison. In the upstairs hallway there is a very interesting exhibit on the 1924 tornado that devastated Lorain. Pictures of the damage and artifacts from destroyed homes still have resonance today. The remainder of the rooms are broken up by topic, such as the "war room," "fashion room," and "children's room." My two favorite rooms were the "war room" and the "children's room." The "war room" has a collection of U.S. military uniforms dating back to WWI and has interesting objects such as ration books, a soldiers jar of sand from Iwo Jima, a "black ball" voting box (where we get the term "black balling"), and many more interesting objects (seriously my list could go on for another ten lines). The "children's room" contains cool objects like old tin toys, old kids clothes, and (like the "war room") much more.

### Lorain Rose Garden

While you are in Lorain you may want to make a stop at Lakeview Park and see it's historic Rose Garden ([click here to get directions from BRHS](#)). At Lakeview Park you can grab lunch, stroll around the beautiful Rose Garden, and (during those hot summer months) take a dip in the lake.



Click on the above logo to visit the Lakeview Park website.

## Parking

The Black River Historical Society has FREE parking and shares a lot with the Moose Lodge next door. Do not turn into the driveway next to the historical society, you will actually turn into the lot that says "Moose Lodge Parking Only." The parking spots closest to the historical society are reserved for museum visitors, so only park in spots that have signs indicating "Historical Society Parking Only."

## Gift Shop

The Black River Historical Society has for sale postcards, books, paintings, etc. depicting Lorain landmarks and other points of interest.

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# Passport to Cleveland

## Passport to Cleveland

### Self Guided Downtown Walking Tour

Parking is so expensive in Downtown Cleveland. Why not park at the Burke Lakefront Airport for \$6 and then walk to your other [destinations](#) (click on the link for detailed directions to various points of interest and to locate Burke). Or, to be "green," use the RTA rapid Waterfront line and get off at the [West 3rd station](#). If you are trying to save money, though, you may want to drive yourself and park at Burke Lakefront Airport because RTA fares are \$4.50 (all day)/per person. This could potentially get expensive for families of 4 or more.

Total walking time from destination to destination is 1 hour and 34 minutes. There are eight museums total and it is not advised to complete the tour in one day. You may want to choose to do this over a two day period. When you click the destination link above you will be able to tailor your downtown tour to suit your preference and time constraints. The key is to have fun, get your passports stamped, and experience Downtown Cleveland!

### Segway Tours

Don't want to walk...ride a Segway! Located in the terminal of Burke Lakefront Airport is [Electric Transport Segways](#) (click on the link for more info).

Karl Johnson provides a wonderful tour of Cleveland all without the hassle of walking or driving. Curteous, informative, and witty- this is a great way to get to know the city better.

Mention you have a *Passport to Cleveland* and receive a 15 minute extension (a \$10 value)!

Electric Transport, LLC  
Burke Lakefront Airport  
1501 N. Marginal Rd.  
Suite 181  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
Office 216-394-0095  
Mobile 216-548-9193



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# Passport to Cleveland

## Passport to Cleveland

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### Questions or Comments

Include your name and email address when sending me a question or comment so I can follow up with a reply.

What's on your mind?

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