

# Three-Day Weekend Trip to Cleveland, Ohio

Our trip to Cleveland and back started Thursday night and finished Sunday evening.

You can use this itinerary and fit it into your schedule.

**Legend:**  
D - Distance to next location T - Time to drive to next location A - Arrive at the actual time S - Stay for how long L - Leave at this time

## Thursday Evening:

Hotel in Willoughby, Ohio. We chose this location because it is close enough to Cleveland but far enough away to avoid the higher costs of a motel in the city.

## Friday:

Wake up early. Many of the first destinations on this morning are accessible at any time of the day. The locations at the end of this day do have closing times so it is important that this is kept in mind when visiting these areas.

### Squire's Castle

The remains of what was going to be a large mansion complex. Free to view and explore. In a beautiful urban park.

A: Arrive to this location by 8:30 S: 30 L: 9:00

### Buttermilk Falls

Located within the same park as Squire's Castle. A small, picturesque waterfall that is easily accessible from the parking lot nearby.

D: 4 KM T: 6 min A: 9:10 S: 20 L: 9:30

## **Cleveland Cultural Gardens**

A wonderful idea to place cultural gardens along a picturesque road. Parking is free on the road. On the Google Map that I created for this trip, a parking location is marked. There is extensive walking to see the various gardens. Parking is limited to two hours and to do this tour will take about two and a half hours. Don't forget to see the **Rockefeller Greenhouse**. I suggest driving there and parking on site after touring what can be seen along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive.

D: 27 KM T: 19 A: 9:50 S: 2:30 L: 12:20

## **Cleveland Museum of Art Parking Garage**

Drive from Rockefeller Greenhouse to the parking garage. There is a relatively small fee to park here. From this location, visit the **Cleveland Botanical Gardens**. This is a small garden area that is free with the *Reciprocal Admissions Program*, otherwise it is paid entry.

After visiting the Gardens, see art at **The Cleveland Museum of Art**. A vast collection of art that is free to visit.

D: 4 KM T: 5 min A: 12:30 S: 4:00 L: 4:30

## **Punderson State Park**

We had chosen to stay at this state park to camp. When selecting a campsite, be warned that many of the sites are very small and not useable for a tent. Pick your site wisely or choose a different area to camp in, or hotel it for the night.

D: 37 T: 39 A: 5:10

## **OPTIONAL – Lake View Cemetery tour -PRIORITY SITE**

On the way to the campground, you will pass this cemetery that holds some of Cleveland's rich and famous. The tomb sites are large and ornate. **Wade Memorial Chapel** is wonderful on the inside. It has limited hours to enter. **James A. Garfield Monument** is also accessible but also with restricted hours.

Fitting this location is a priority. Consider visiting it before the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Botanical Garden, or fit it in first thing tomorrow when arriving back in Cleveland.

### **The Holden Arboretum**

This arboretum is linked to the Cleveland Botanical Garden. There is an entry fee to visit, but it is free with the Reciprocal Membership Program—a beautiful setting with various trees, sculptures, and gardens. Be sure to climb the tower and to the canopy walk.

A: opens at 9:00 AM so time your departure from the campground appropriately. S: 2:00 L: 11:00

### **OPTIONAL – James A. Garfield National Historic Site**

This location is only a 15 minute detour to the north of Holden. It is the former residence of a president of the USA. Tours are offered. Admission fee. Free parking on site.

### **OPTIONAL – Stearns Homestead**

A small farm with animals. Set more towards children. Food is available to feed some of the animals.

### **b.a. Sweetie Candy Company**

Considered to be the largest candy store in North America. There is a restaurant that offers desserts, including floats that come in one of 200 different flavours.

D: from Holden - 60 KM T: 41 min A: varies depending of options S: 45 min L: varies depending on options

### **Buckland Museum of Witchcraft & Magick**

A museum run by witches about witchcraft. Very interesting and unique. Tours are about 45 minutes long and runs hourly. Advance tickets are required but can be bought the same day if necessary.

D: 4 KM T: 7 A: time your arrival to your scheduled time. You may need to change the order of today's itinerary to fit this. S: 1:00

### **Downtown Walking Tour**

Park at garage located at 1346 E. Mall Dr.. Check out murals, stores, churches and monuments, some of which are located on the **Google Map** of this trip. Be mindful that some destinations may have closed by the time you arrive, especially if it is later in the day.

## **Return to Campground**

D: 60 km T: 45 min

Sunday:

### **Paine Falls Park**

Take today to sleep in - after all, you are on vacation. Break camp and head to this waterfall. It is a short walk from the parking lot.

D: 35 KM T: 35 min A: depends S: 20 L: depends

### **The BIG Rocking Chair**

This is just a big chair for a photo op.

D: 30 KM T: 23 min S: 10 min

### **Barcelona Harbor Beach**

Head to the beach, not to swim, but to look for beach glass! Bring a small shovel or sift through the sand and stone with your hands. Clear glass is the most common to find, but there is also white, blue, green and the rarest being red.

D: 128 KM T: 1:12 S: as long as you want.

### **Home**

Start heading home and if time permits, maybe stop at a few other spots on the way.

## Links:

**Google Map** of this trip: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1jKghb2MEE6hfk2d34wnAz2d3odFcZdc&usp=sharing>

**Squire's Castle:**

<https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/parks/visit/parks/north-chagrin-reservation/squire-s-castle>

**Buttermilk Falls:**

<https://www.clevelandmetroparks.com/parks/visit/parks/north-chagrin-reservation/buttermilk-falls-scenic-overlook>

**Cleveland Cultural Gardens:** <http://www.culturalgardens.org>

**Rockefeller Greenhouse:** <http://rockefellerparkgreenhouse.org>

**Cleveland Botanical Gardens:** <https://holdenfg.org>

**The Cleveland Museum of Art:** <https://www.clevelandart.org>

**Reciprocal Admissions Program:** <https://travelswithstacey.com/new-map-reciprocal-admissions-program/>

**Punderson State Park:** <https://ohiodnr.gov/go-and-do/plan-a-visit/find-a-property/punderson-state-park>

**Lake View Cemetery:** <https://www.lakeviewcemetery.com>

**James A. Garfield National Historic Site:**

<http://www.nps.gov/jaga/index.htm>

**Stearns Homestead:** <http://www.stearnshomestead.com>

**b.a. Sweetie Candy Company:** <http://www.sweetiescandy.com>

**Buckland Museum of Witchcraft & Magick:**

<http://www.bucklandmuseum.org>

**Paine Falls Park:** <http://www.lakemetroparks.com/parks-trails/paine-falls-park>