

visitgahanna



Discovering Gahanna, Ohio's Herbal Trail: 4 Day Sample Itinerary

Explore Gahanna—the Herb Capital of Ohio! Located 10 minutes east of Columbus, Gahanna's Herbal Trail features 45 unique culinary and shopping venues, herb gardens and trails, eco learning options and health-wellness retreats ... all with hands-on activities designed to create an unforgettable sensory experience. Let us customize an itinerary for your group. Meet the “Willy Wonka of Farmers,” learn to create kitchen cosmetics, visit a private refuge run by nuns, sample Venetian Wine Cake and more! Book your adventure through Gahanna Convention & Visitors Bureau and enjoy VIP treatment including complimentary services and goodies for your guests. **Contact Mary Szymkowiak (866/424-2662 MSzymko@VisitGahanna.com) to book your tour today!**

Day 1 –Arrival

Check into your Gahanna hotel and enjoy your Herbal themed complimentary gift* and a little rest and relaxation.

(*Gahanna CVB offers complimentary welcome gifts for group tours that works through the CVB to book their Gahanna hotel.)

Dinner/Evening

Treat your group to a **VIP private, Farm-to-Table dinner!** Discover a 65-acre organic farm that produces 100+ varieties of herbs for Central Ohio's top chefs. Then sit back and enjoy a breathtaking sunset while enjoying fresh-from-the-farm fare created by your host and her team. Menus are customized per group. (Available exclusively to groups staying in one of Gahanna's hotels and working with the Gahanna CVB.) \$58/per person. Minimum 25. *Bonus: Want to add some live music to inspire some fun & dancing? Ask us about budget friendly options!

DAY 2

Morning. Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at your hotel.

Feeding Minds, Bodies and Souls: An Ecological Ministry

Experience the peaceful serenity of an ecological ministry and private refuge owned by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. This 160-acre natural oasis offers a fascinating educational experience, a haven for wildlife and native flora, and spiritual refreshment for harried humans. Visit the 100+ year old barn that has been converted into offices/program space, meet Fernando the Llama and the other farm animals, learn about sustainable agricultural practices and a variety of ecosystems, walk the beautiful Labyrinth or relax along the Meditation Trail. \$5/per person. Allow 1.5 hours. Tours scheduled on availability, April-October and involve considerable walking.

Lunch.

Lunch at Hickory House

Dine on great barbecue and all the fixings at this family owned restaurant. A variety of buffet options offer plenty of food and price points to fit your budget.

Herbal Trailblazers. Experience Gahanna's Herbal Trail in a fun and engaging way during this 1.5 hour adventure.

Smell, taste and savor some delightful herbs—while visiting three of Gahanna's signature businesses. Your Gahanna CVB guide will meet your group upon their arrival in Olde Gahanna, divide them into smaller groups and provide guests with a trivia game sheet and an explanation of how the activity will work. Guests will explore Olde Gahanna, visiting local businesses for answers to trivia questions about some powerful herbs—their characteristics, healing properties and culinary uses. Enjoy treats, gifts and activities along the way! Cost: \$12/per person.

More ...

Let Them Eat Wine Cake!

You've never had dessert like this before! Tour Wyandotte Winery and meet owners Robin and Valerie Coolidge, then sample a tantalizing trio of their signature wine cakes! Sample the Chocolate Port (dark chocolate cake with port wine and chocolate chips), the Venetian Wine Cake (featuring Cabernet sauvignon wine, aromatic fresh rosemary, and pecans) and Sweet Blackberry Wine Cake (laden with fresh-picked blackberries and decadent mini chocolate chips). Sip a glass of wine and you'll be in heaven! Allow 1.5 hours. \$12 per person.

Dinner.

Only in Central Ohio can you visit one (or several) of Cameron Mitchell's signature restaurants—and **Cap City Diner** is undoubtedly one of the perennial favorites. Named a *614 Magazine ColumBEST* award winner, the options are deliciously endless. Start your meal with the *Maytag bleu cheese potato chips*, then savor the “*Best Meatloaf in Columbus*” or the famous *Pecan Crusted Pork Chop*. Save room for mouth-watering desserts like the *Chocolate Covered Peanut Butter Pie* or *24K Carrot Cake*. One visit and it's easy to see why Cap City Diner is voted a *Columbus Monthly Magazine* “Best of Columbus” reader favorite, year after year. (\$25-\$35/pp)

Day 3:

Morning. Breakfast at the hotel.

Speak No Evil: Languages of Love. What would you say and how would you say it, IF you couldn't speak? In this fascinating workshop, you'll meet 3 experts who will teach you how to communicate in 3 new languages. Learn the symbolic language of flowers (historically used to communicate feelings); the art of cell-phone photography (“a picture paints a thousand words”); and how to tap your inner creative during a postcard art project. \$20/pp includes take-home items. Allow 2 hours.

Lunch.

Your group's lunch destination offers a location between the runways of the Port Columbus Airport, with a dramatic view of the arriving and departing air traffic! The old country 1917 French Farmhouse-inspired restaurant (which has been a beloved central Ohio favorite for 30 years) is full of military memorabilia and aviation relics depicting the times of the WWI and WWII era. The interior of the restaurant is cozy and romantic with huge stone fireplaces, wood paneling, and beamed ceilings. Your lunch buffet includes salad, entrée, side dishes, rolls & butter and dessert. Economical meal/pricing options.

Universal Design Living Laboratory Gahanna is home to THE highest rated universal design home in North America (earning 3 national certifications)! Tour the **Universal Design Living Laboratory**, the breathtaking Frank Lloyd Wright inspired home, and meet the inspiring couple that envisioned (and now resides in) this home. This home went beyond green to promote an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable lifestyle. It provides comfort, independence, convenience and safety for people who have physical challenges as well as for those who would like to age in place gracefully. Universal design features include: no step entrances, low door thresholds, wider doors and hallways, curbless showers, and multiple height countertops. \$15/per person.

Chocolate 101

Calling all Chocoholics! Savor the flavors of your favorite treat and a few signature tastes from one of Central Ohio's most famous chocolate makers. Treat your senses to an uplifting and delicious experience and go home with a few sweets for-the-road! \$5/pp. Allow 45 minutes.

More ...

Dinner/Evening

No visit to Central Ohio is complete without a visit to **Easton Town Center** – a regional shopping Mecca called the “Rodeo Drive” of the Midwest by USA Today. Easton’s expanding list of the nation’s premier retailers includes Nordstrom, Macy’s, Coach, Apple, Crate and Barrel, American Girl AND an endless selection of great dining options. Easton offers a diverse retail mix in an open-air pedestrian friendly setting. Coupon booklets provided to group tours.

Day 4

Morning.

Franklin Park Conservatory

Visit one of the Midwest’s premier botanical landmark and cultural attractions, featuring exceptional plant collections and gardens, seasonal art and nature-based exhibitions and a dynamic array of educational opportunities and special events for visitors of all ages. The Conservatory, home to the spectacular “Blooms and Butterflies” exhibit (March- September), is situated in the lovely 88-acre Franklin Park and features indoor gardens filled with exotic plant life and artwork by Dale Chihuly.

Lunch at 101 Beer Kitchen. Savor seasonal, locally sourced chef-driven cuisine in fun setting. This signature Central Ohio eatery provides friendly service with an uncomplicated, comfortable style. Focused on educating visitors in the joys of food and beer. Allow the Gahanna CVB to help coordinate your requests!

Afternoon.

Herbal Vinegars and Salad Dressings

Herbal infused vinegars are a great way to preserve the fresh taste of herbs. Besides flavor, there is the added benefit of vitamins and minerals extracted from the herbs. But what can you do with vinegars? Salad dressings! Basic salad dressings are quick and easy to make, as well as a way to cut your grocery bill. Learn the basics of vinaigrettes and creamy dressings while exploring other tasty additions. Make a vinegar to take home. \$12/pp

-OR-

Wild Cocktails

Creative cocktails are back in vogue! Discover how to create versatile herb-inspired summer-quenching drinks (basil & strawberry) or winter warming herbal drinks (apple & cinnamon) to impress your guests and inspire your next social gathering. Learn to make simple syrups, cordials and liqueurs that can be used to infuse both herbal flavor and magic into cocktails, lemonade, teas and/or sparkling water. Samples included. \$12/per person includes a take-home herbal mix. \$12/pp

HEAD FOR HOME!

The Gahanna Convention & Visitors Bureau offers complimentary tour assistance including coordinating your hotel bid process, free visitor guides and welcome bags, Meet-and-Greet service and itinerary planning/booking assistance. To learn more, contact Mary Szymkowiak (866/424-2662 MSzymko@VisitGahanna.com), Group Tour Manager at the Gahanna Ohio Convention & Visitors Bureau today.