

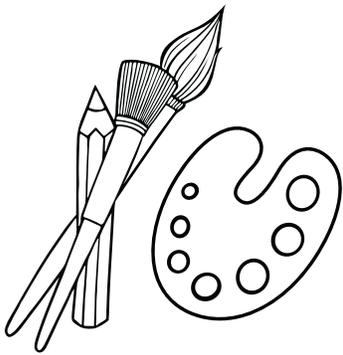
Find the Perfect Cincinnati Getaway for You

By Patricia Kaowthumrong

More and more visitors are discovering Cincinnati's hidden charms, including history-steeped neighborhoods, a burgeoning culinary scene and a wealth of fun-for-all family attractions. Use the following themed trip ideas as inspiration for your next retreat — all paired with the perfect place to stay from THOR's 2018 Hotel Program.

Art & History Vacay

Uncover storied local and national history and indulge your creative side.



See & Do

Many of the city's eye-catching historical buildings have been lovingly repurposed into new spaces that house remnants of the past. Spend hours browsing the more than 60,000 works of art from across 6,000 years of history, including works by Claude Monet, Edgar Degas and Winslow Homer in the Cincinnati Art Museum's stunning late-19th-century structure.

Learn about one of the darkest periods in U.S. history at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, which interprets three centuries of the history of slavery in America with a detailed look at the Civil War period. Note the fitting location on the banks of the Ohio River, where thousands

of slaves crossed from Kentucky into Cincinnati.

Meanwhile, the intimate Taft Museum of Art has masterpieces by famed artists like Francisco Goya and James Whistler and the largest Gothic ivory sculpture in the country, while the American Sign Museum chronicles the past through signage, from neon bar signs to classic movie posters.

Stay

Book a stay at the renowned 21c Museum Hotel Cincinnati, where you don't even have to step outside to immerse yourself in the arts. Situated next to the Contemporary Arts Center, the former landmark 100-year-old Metropole Hotel was transformed into the 21c Cincinnati, an art-centric property that houses a rotating roster of works by 21st-century artists. Guestrooms feature thought-provoking art and stylish furnishings. Have a pre- or post-dinner drink at the Hotel's rooftop Cocktail Terrace (open seasonally) for unparalleled views of the city and boozy slushies or "pop-tails," a popsicle-and-cocktail hybrid.

Eat

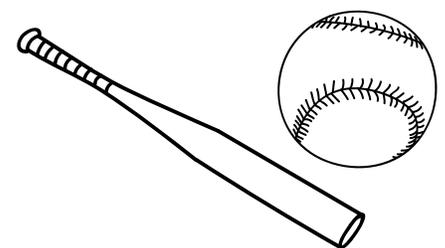
Encounter one of the largest concentrations of 19th-century architecture in the country in the Over the Rhine district, where you'll find Findlay Market — a collection of gourmet eateries, cafes, food stalls and boutiques in one of Ohio's oldest surviving municipal market houses. Find delicious dining options amid the farm stands and artisan food shops, like authentic Thai at Mimi's Gourmet

Eggrolls and Curry and mouthwatering hickory-smoked ribs and pulled pork at Eli's BBQ.



Sports Lovers Escape

The birthplace of professional baseball and home to seven major sports venues, Cincinnati is a sports fan's dream.



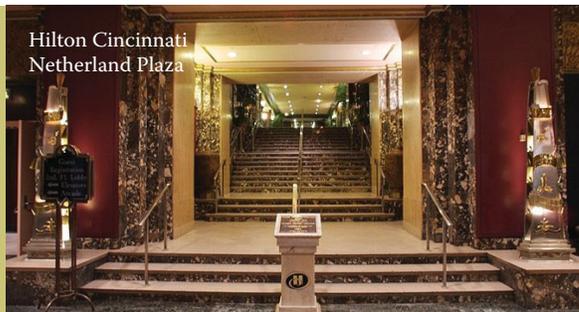
See & Do

Visit during the summer months to catch the Cincinnati Reds in action at the Great American Ball Park, touted to offer terrific views of the field from every seat. Then, delve into the history of the country's oldest baseball team

at the adjacent Cincinnati Reds Hall of Fame & Museum, where highlights include an interactive exhibit that allows you to pitch and field balls inside the museum.

Not a baseball fan? No problem. In the fall and winter months, catch the NHL's Cincinnati Bengals at Paul Brown Stadium or pro hockey's Cincinnati Cyclones at U.S. Bank Arena; and from March through September, pro soccer's FC Cincinnati plays home games at University of Cincinnati's Nippert Stadium.

Links lovers will also find plenty of opportunities to tee off in the area, with scenic options like California Golf Course, featuring views of the Ohio River and gently sloping terrain, and the Woodland Golf Course, known for its quick nine-hole layout and footgolf course (a game that involves kicking a soccer ball into various cups in as few shots as possible).



Equipped with a water park and classic rides, Coney Island offers summer fun at its best. Sunlite Water Adventure has a gigantic recirculating pool, 13-foot waterslides and 73 interactive hydro play stations at Typhoon Tower. For those who prefer to stay dry, the amusement park also has thrill rides and activities like paddleboats, miniature golf and a giant slide.

Stay

At the Millennium Cincinnati, families appreciate the spacious guestrooms and suites, luxe rooftop pool and close proximity to attractions like the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. Another bonus for those traveling with little ones in tow: Through the hotel's Ask Alfred Programme, pint-size guests receive a custom teddy bear to accompany them on their adventures, activity book and expert advice on the city's best family attractions. Teens love the hotel-wide Wi-Fi, while grown-ups relish the lovely views from nearly every guestroom and cocktails at the Bistro on Elm Restaurant and Bar.

Eat

No trip to Cincinnati would be complete without a trip to Graeter's Ice Cream, a local institution that's been handcrafting flavors like Black Cherry Chocolate Chip and Double Chocolate Chip since 1870. Aglamesis Bro's, which dishes out ice cream churned in small batches, handmade chocolates and other tempting treats, is another long-loved local sweet shop. To satisfy picky eaters, grab a table at A Tavola Bar and Trattoria for tasty pizzas and heaping plates of pasta or stop into Taste of Belgium for crowd-pleasing chicken and waffles. ✨

Stay

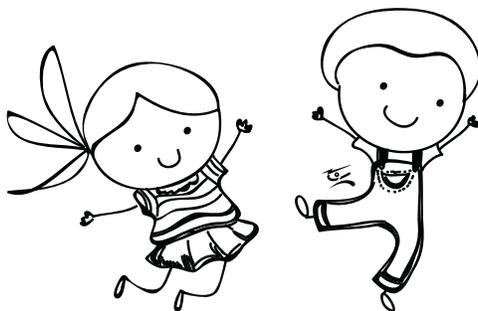
Located near the Great American Ball Park, Paul Brown Stadium and U.S. Bank Arena, Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza is a great home base for all of your pursuits. The hotel, established in 1931, is a National Historic Landmark decked out in restored 1930s French Art Deco design, rosewood paneling and gorgeous murals. Reserve a table for dinner at the on-site Orchids at Palm Court, Ohio's only AAA Five Diamond-rated restaurant to treat yourself to unforgettable dishes made with locally sourced ingredients. And keep up with your wellness routine in the fitness room or pool before retiring to your plush bed in one of their cozy guestrooms.

Eat

Comforting American favorites are king in Cincinnati, and you'll find plenty of places to indulge all over town. Savor one of Cincinnati's signature dishes at Skyline Chili, which has been smothering hot dogs, burritos, spaghetti, fries and baked potatoes in its legendary chili since 1949. Or get your hands on a slab of world-famous ribs at Montgomery Inn, known for their mouthwatering barbecue sauce made with a super-secret spice blend.

Kid-Pleasing Family Frolic

The Queen City has attractions for explorers from every generation.



See & Do

From gorillas, giraffes and monkeys to hippos, elephants and manatees, Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden is occupied by a cast of fascinating creatures. Let the kiddos loose at the Spaulding Children's Zoo, where they can pet baby doll sheep, Nigerian dwarf goats and other friendly animals and expel some energy in the "Be the Animal" playscape.

The Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal is a complex of three stellar museums housed in the art deco-style Union Terminal building. While the Museum of Natural History and Cincinnati History Museum are currently closed during the complex's renovation (check their website for more information), the Duke Energy Children's Museum recently reopened and offers interactive exhibits and activities that encourage a love for art, science, math and more.



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