



KNOX COUNTY

COLLEGE GUIDE

SECOND EDITION
V. 2



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Hello!

Thanks for picking this up – no matter how you got your hands on it we're happy you're here!

When I moved here to go to college, I hardly knew anything about Ohio, much less Knox County. I've come to get to know and love this community, and wanted to share my love with everyone in the same boat as I was way back when. To do that, I've put together a portion of the little booklet you're reading now to show you what I wish someone had told me back when I first moved here.

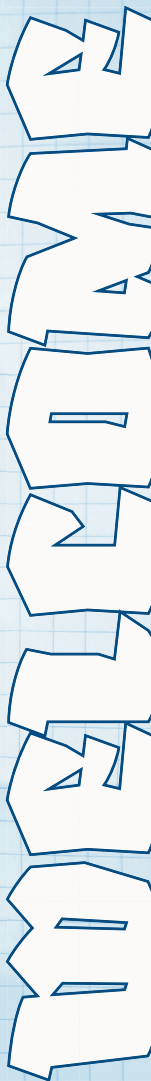
Zoey May

Knox College class of 2026

I hope you enjoy discovering all that Knox County has to offer as much as I have! I grew up in a neighboring county, and even though I've always spent a lot of time in Knox, even before coming to school here, I've discovered so many hidden gems and places I just never knew about, practically in my own backyard. There are so many fun things to do here and there is so much beautiful nature to see, and it's even better to enjoy it with friends, so I hope that you'll use this guide to make the most of your time here.

Zoey Hovel

MVNU class of 2027



Chapter 1: The Vibe Check



MOUNT VERNON NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Location: Mount Vernon

Atmosphere: Like your grandparent's hometown, but make it cooler

Population: 17,329;

Student Population: Around 1,300

Kenyon

Location: Gambier

Atmosphere: Cutesy little village straight out of a picture book

Population: 2,403;

Student Population: Around 1,700

How to get between them?

Aside from driving your own car or hitching a ride with a friend, you've got a few options:



If the weather's nice,
BIKE!

The Kokosing Gap Trail's great, it's got plenty of trees to give you shade in the summer, super pretty colors in the fall, and everything's in bloom during springtime. It only takes **30-40 MINUTES** to get between Gambier and Mount Vernon, so it's super fun to ride with friends too!

The KCT (Knox County Transit) has a bus route running between Gambier and Mount Vernon almost every day that's completely **FREE** for Kenyon students and only **\$1** for everyone else!



Scan for routes, to schedule a ride, or just simply to learn more about the KCT.

So you feel compelled to hit the trails. But what if you don't have a bike? Don't worry! With multiple locations for bike rentals, Knox has your back!

V. Not Cycling

In downtown Mount Vernon, this highly rated bike shop radiates fresh city vibes. Of course they sell bikes, but they also offer rental bikes for a small fee and bike repair services. Check out their website for more information.

Bike Barn

At Kenyon, this is the place to go for any bicycling needs. They offer rental bikes, bike repairs, and will even teach you how to tune up your bike yourself, and it's all **FREE!**

The Rec

Just a short walk from the Caf is MVNU's supplier of all things outdoorsy. Bikes, scooters, kayaks, sports equipment, and more are all available to MVNU students to rent, **FREE** of charge!

GOIN' BIKIN'!

Chapter 2: Survival Mode Activated



The (Somewhat)
Bare
Necessities:
Local Grocery Stores &
Dorm Room and Closet Reinvention

Right now, there's a good chance you've been getting most of your essentials from Walmart, furniture at Marshalls, and thrifted finds at Goodwill. I get it, it's the easiest thing to look up and map out, I've been there. But it's the 2020s guys, and we can definitely do better than that. Especially when you've got yourself a nicely organized list that lays out all your options, courtesy of yours truly.

Down to Earth Natural Goods

If you're trying to track down that hard to find **natural supplement, herb, skincare product, or essential oil, this is your place.** Keep track of their Facebook to see when they're hosting their free health seminars too!

The Village Market

A **Kenyon campus staple.** While not the largest grocery store around, it has all the essentials you might need in a pinch no matter what time of day. It also serves **pizza, açai bowls, and other foods made in-house.**

Don Leo's Market

The best place to go when looking for a good deal. Since they're always getting new products in, check their Facebook to stay up-to-date.

LOCAL MARKETS

Lanning's Foods

A local Mount Vernon grocery store that specializes in selling local produce. A great stop if you're trying to buy meat, and make sure to check their website for deals before you go too!

Smithhisler Meats

If you're looking to impress with your cooking skills, make sure you check out Smithhisler Meats **for the protein**. Or if you're a vegetarian, check out their artisanal **cheeses, gourmet chocolate, candy, breads**, and more. If you're not trying to break the bank, keep

updated on their
weekly specials
listed on their
website.





Theft & Antiques

The moment you've all been waiting for: A master list of all of Knox County's locally-owned thrift and antique shops. They've all got unique new finds to search for, from clothing, to furniture, to fun little knick-knacks. *Happy hunting!*

Centerburg

- Interchurch Social Services Thrift Shop
- Rusty Redhead at the Village

Danville

- Risen Thrift
- Interchurch Social Services Thrift Shop
- Millie's House Thrift Store

Fredericktown

- The Treasure Chest

Gambier

- Hidden Oak Thrift Shop

Mount Vernon

- Acts Thrift Shop
- Interchurch Social Services Thrift Shop
- P4g Thrift
- Mission Drive
- Packrat's Stash
- Crickets On South Main
- Jackie K's Vintage Venue
- Habitat for Humanity

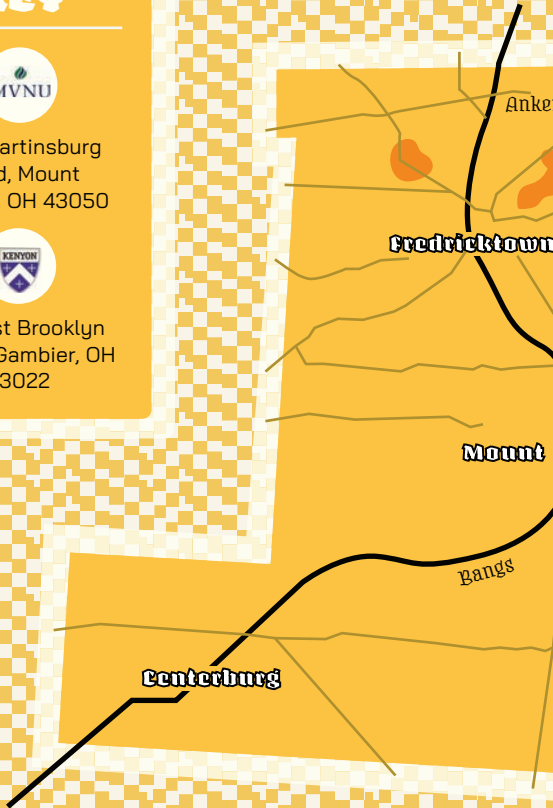
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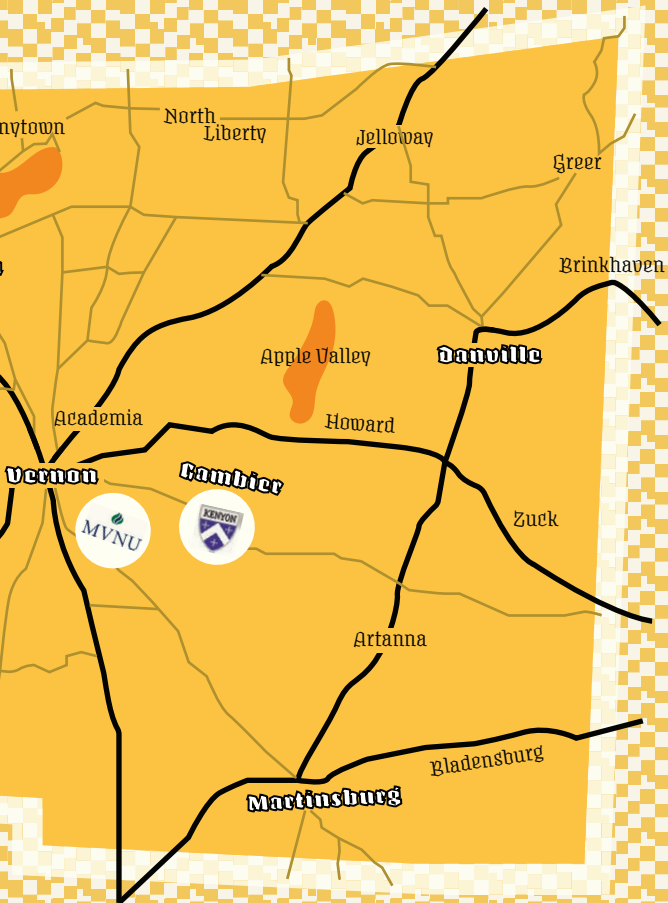


800 Martinsburg
Road, Mount
Vernon, OH 43050



101 East Brooklyn
Street, Gambier, OH
43022





Chapter 3: Fueling the Grind

Scan to explore
the full
restaurant guide



eat, drink, and caffeinate

Not gonna lie, it's tough
finding spots around here you
can get food at after 10:00pm.
Call it small town charm.
But don't worry, I've
managed to track down the
ones that do for those nights
you get the munchies after
dining hall hours.

you're welcome.



Creno's Pizza

Central Ohio pizza chain with an app you can use to collect points coupons to get an even better deal than usual.

The Village Market

Small store that somehow manages to be **part grocery store, part grub spot** seven days a week. They've always got the basics (pizza, hot dogs, etc.), but on some nights they go all out and add limited time items like milkshakes to the menu to spice things up.

Howard Hilton

Cash-only dive that serves up all the bar food classics, known especially for their burgers.

Pizza Cottage

Another Central Ohio chain that's an **easy go-to** when nobody can agree on dinner. **Their app lets you rack up points and stack coupons**, making an already reliable pizza night even cheaper.

Truckin Trav

On a night out, Trav always manages to make a good night even better with his revolving menu of burgers, loaded fries, and other munchies. You can find his food truck in Gambier most Wednesdays.

Kenyon College Bookstore

While it doesn't have any sort of restaurant set up, it's a **great place to stop for some snacks or boxed meals** like ramen or mac and cheese. When the weather's warm, help yourself to some local ice cream at their scoop counter.

Dirko's Pizza

Mom and pop pizza place famous for its **stromboli!** On top of that, they've got all the **other munchies** you're on the lookout for on a late night like **wings, nachos, breadsticks, and more**. Don't forget about their pizza though—especially their taco and kitchen sink specialty pizzas.

CAFFEINE

Happy Bean Coffee Shop

Happy Bean might be inside **MVNU's Hunter Hall**, but its vibe is definitely **for everyone**. There's **free wifi and lots of seating**, so it's perfect if you want to study or have a chat. If you're feeling a little hungry, they've also got yummy pastries.

Wiggin Street Coffee

If MVNU's campus coffee shop is Happy Bean, **Kenyon's is Wiggins**. There's **plenty of seating** to get a group together for **studying or fun**, and always new seasonal drinks to try. They've got great sweet and savory bites to keep you fueled too (I personally recommend the raspberry danish)!

Half-Baked Bistro

Another good one for **the family**, with plenty of **drinks and good bites** to try.

North Main Café

If you're looking for the **full brunch experience**, North Main's your spot. On top of a stacked drink menu, they've got a full restaurant menu with omelettes, avocado toast, baked oatmeal, and all the other classics you can think of. **Great spot to stop at during a family visit.**

The Blonde Robin

Another cute combo spot with a **big boutique** inside alongside their **cafe** offerings. If the weather's warm, sit outside on the aesthetic wraparound deck.

The Brickhouse Grind

All-in-one spot that's part **coffee shop**, part **boutique**, and part **art studio**. They've got a great **indoor seating** space for studying and a **cool outdoor seating** setup with rocking chairs and a fire pit. **Check out their website to sign up for their art classes!**

CRAWL

and
smoothies
on the side

Kolacheez Coffee Bar

Coffee aside, Kolacheez is known for their **kolaches**, a sweet or savory Czech pastry popular in Texas that has filling in the middle. Think **pigs in a blanket, but better**.

Tropical Frappe Ohio

If you're looking to **grab a quick drink on the go**, Tropical Frappe Ohio is the perfect spot to stop by. **Aside from their coffee drinks, they've also got great customizable açai bowls.**

Green Vibes Juice & More

If you want a drink and **caffeine's not really your speed**, Green Vibes will probably become one of your go-to's. As far as drinks go, they've got **fresh-pressed juices, smoothies, and health shots.**

Pulp

Their specialty is their smoothies, and they've got plenty of different kinds to satisfy any craving. If you want to treat yourself, add some of their extras that help with stress, energy, and getting you through the day.





Chapter 3: Fueling the Grind

Date Night Delights

Lola's Fresh Taqueria

Amazing spot whether you want to go somewhere with family, friends, or treat yourself with some takeout. It's super cute inside and out, with a great patio to boot. Try their **tacos (the birria tacos are a personal favorite)** and if you're **twenty-one or older** make sure to get a **margarita flight**.

Mazza's Italian

A **Mount Vernon classic**. Perfect for any kind of special occasion, or no occasion at all. If you'd like to try a sample of their pasta dishes, go for their **Little Italy**. If pasta's not speaking to you, try their **Prime Rib dinner**. **Pinky promise** you won't be disappointed.

The Alcove

The **swankiest option around** when you're trying to pull out all the stops and looking to dress up. If you're looking for something beyond the classic high-class **filet mignon fare**, try something more unique like the **Miso Glazed Sake Sea Bass**.

Ichiban Sushi & Hibachi

At Ichiban, you can enjoy a **quiet date in the corner, or an exciting show at the Hibachi**. Plus, they have an **expansive menu**, so you're bound to find something you like (even if you're a picky eater).

Southside Diner

At this local legend, you'll take a step back in time to **enjoy all-day breakfast, lunch, and dinner dishes** in a classic diner atmosphere. And with their awesome pie, you've got to save room for dessert!

Hunan Garden

A quiet place for a **classic Chinese dinner and a spot of complimentary tea** straight from the teapot. (Their crab rangoons are to die for.)

Burrata Woodfired

Great pizza restaurant with a great bar area, and another spot to get your weekly trivia fix if once a week just isn't enough. **Insider tip: Their whipped burrata is an instant classic.**

Founder's Food Hall

Once home to the Mount Vernon News, this historic building now houses a fresh eatery with a modern city feel. **The food hall hosts eight kitchens, providing plenty of options for the pickiest eaters** or those who just don't know what they want. **(Plus, they have a bar and duckpin bowling!)**

We all know ice cream is one of the best things to enjoy with friends or on a date, so here's some of the best spots to chill with a scoop, shake, or sundae.

CHILL OUT!!



The Center Scoop

A classic drive-thru ice cream stand with small town charm. **From ice cream cones to floats and burgers to fried mushrooms** (so come hungry), they've got it all on their extensive menu!

TK's Ice Cream and Sweets

This family-operated, two-story, **fully wheelchair accessible ice cream shop** brings a fun, modern flair to the **heart of downtown Fredericktown**. Their menu offers a ton of sweet treats, including **Round Hill Dairy Ice Cream, plus a variety of hot dogs!**

Round Hill Dairy

The best local ice cream shop since 1946. If you want to try a few of their many flavors (trust, you will), get the **Feed Sampler for a four flavor experience.**

The Daily Scoop

A brand-new ice cream spot that greets you the moment you step through the doors of Founder's Food Hall. With a fresh look and delicious Velvet Ice Cream, this will be your go-to place to chill.

Chapter 4: The Great Outdoors



INSTA-WORTHY ADVENTURES

Outdoor recreation, nature breaks,
and physical activity

There's a good chance that at some point during the year, you'll get so caught up in doing work that you'll start to forget what fresh air feels like. Or you'll just start being a hermit during the winter to avoid the cold outside. Lucky for you, I've got plenty of ways you can go out, stop being a bum, and touch some grass. And given the choice, do you really want to choose being a bum?

Ariel Foundation Park

Perfect combo of industrial art and zen nature. If you're not scared of heights, **Rastin Observation Tower** has the best view of Knox County, and gives a clear view of the **three lakes, woods, and meadows** spread out in the park below. After you're done with the nature on the ground, check out the ruins of the **glass factory** that used to sit on the land and get pics of the different art installations scattered around.

Mavis Island

Cross the suspension bridge to Mavis Island for peaceful lake views, scenic walking paths, fishing, and a quiet place to relax in the heart of Ariel-Foundation Park.





Kokosing Scenic River & Mohican State Scenic River

If the weather's warm, you've got to hang out by the Kokosing. The best swim spot's around the rope swing, just a bit north of Honey Run Falls off of Hazel Dell Road. Kokosing Valley Camp and Canoe rents out canoes, kayaks, and inner tubes if you're looking for something a little bit different.



**Tip: The Kokosing makes for a great lazy river when letting off some steam from finals. Another place to check out if you've already been to the Kokosing is the Mohican State Park, which has the Mohican Scenic River to explore.*

water, water, everywhere

chapter 4: The Great Outdoors

Heart of Ohio Trail

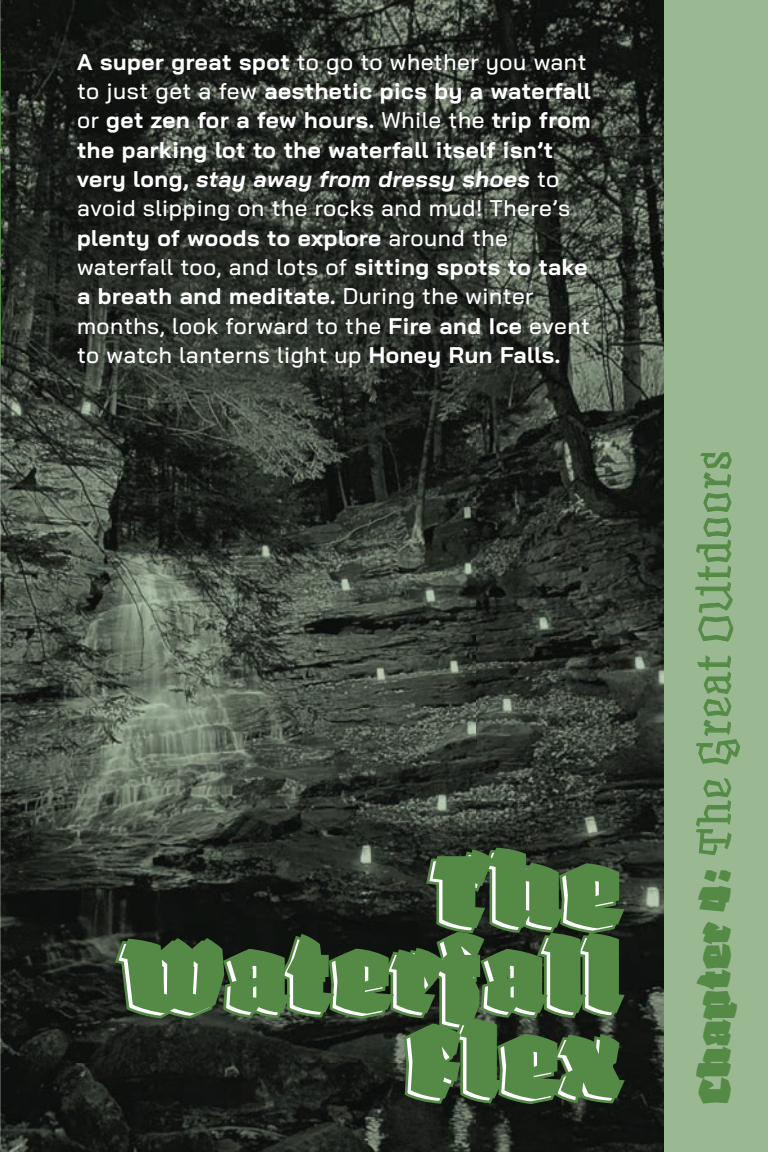
Kokosing Gap Trail

Mohican Valley Trail

Hit The Trail, Not The Books

The Kokosing Gap Trail is a great go-to for **biking and walking for Kenyon and MVNU students** trying to fit some self-care in. There are plenty of spots to stop along the way, like the **Mount Vernon trail art sign** and the **Howard arch**; my personal fav is the **vintage steam engine in Gambier**, which doubles as a great spot for stargazing on clear nights.

If you're in the mood for a new trail (or just want to avoid bumping into anyone you know), **check out the Heart of Ohio and Mohican Valley Trails!** Knox County's **17 miles of the Heart of Ohio Trail** starts right **in the middle of Mount Vernon**, and the **five-mile-long Mohican Valley Trail** is close by in **Danville**. If you like the Howard arch, check out the **Bridge of Dreams**, the third longest covered bridge in the United States.



A **super great spot** to go to whether you want to just get a few **aesthetic pics** by a waterfall or get zen for a few hours. While the trip from the parking lot to the waterfall itself isn't very long, *stay away from dressy shoes* to avoid slipping on the rocks and mud! There's **plenty of woods to explore** around the waterfall too, and lots of **sitting spots to take a breath and meditate**. During the winter months, look forward to the **Fire and Ice** event to watch lanterns light up **Honey Run Falls**.

The Waterfall Flex

chapter 4: The Great Outdoors

Chapter 5: Feeling Artsy





Arts, Culture, and Events

The local entertainment scene,
from music to markets

Sometimes you get bored on campus and want to go off on a little side quest. Or you just want to procrastinate. Regardless of the reason behind it, I can definitely get behind putting you on what's happening here. With a vibrant local arts and culture scene, there will be no shortage of adventures to keep you entertained.

TO THE THEATRE!

The Woodward Opera House

For the history nerds out there, this is the oldest authentic nineteenth century theater still standing in the U.S. today, with its first documented talk taking place in 1851. After closing down in the 1920s, the community rallied for a reset; since their reopening in 2018, The Woodward Opera House hosts all sorts of events, from plays, to concerts, to Madcap Living History Nights (think historical reenactment on steroids).

The Knox Memorial Theater

On the younger side, Knox Memorial Theater first opened to the public in 1926, with a 2014 update bringing it back up to speed. Like the Woodward Opera House, it's a venue that hosts everything year-round like movie screenings, concerts, and plays. Don't Forget! Both MVNU and Kenyon host a number of shows, so keep your eyes open!

Knox County has plenty to offer when it comes to concerts, with musical events frequently popping up at locations like the Woodward Opera House, the Knox Memorial Theater, and Ariel Foundation Park.

Of course, both Kenyon and MVNU also host plenty of concerts featuring both students and guest artists, including community events like MVNU's Sonfest, which includes a line-up of Christian artists, vendors, and food trucks, and Kenyon's Warner Concert Series, featuring a variety of guest artists and soloists.

*Scan to Explore
Upcoming Shows*



Live Concerts

The Gund + Schnormeier Gallery have got you covered. Both galleries feature a wide range of art styles, satisfying your artistic cravings and allowing even those who aren't big on art galleries to find some pieces they like. The best part is, they're both **FREE** for everyone!

The Artistic Fix

The Annex

This Mount Vernon extension of **The Gund** offers **weekly community workshops**, making it the perfect place to get your creative juices flowing. From watercolor to crochet, they've got it all. Just stop in or sign up for **the Gund Newsletter** to see what's next on the calendar.

Pine Row Studio

This rustic little pottery studio radiates earthy, hand-made charm and some of the pieces have a touch of fairytale magic. They offer occasional pottery classes as well, so be sure to check out their website for details.

Gallery on Gambier



This fun gallery features a wide variety of art styles and a particularly vibrant pop of color, especially with their beautiful stained glass. They even offer workshops, so check out their websites to find out more information.

OPEN MIC & LOCAL NOISE

Where is the best place to see a local band, catch an open mic night, or watch student talent perform off-campus?

- * For a spot that always has a revolving door of bands performing, go to Flappers!
- * The Keep Tavern's worth the short drive out of town to listen to live music while you chill with your friends and an order of wings. What more could you ask for?
- * Happy Street Brú Works is perfect for those looking to show their musical talents off at one of their many open mic nights.
- * The Pub is a classic for a reason. Grab a seat and enjoy the patio.
- * Come to Road Hog Willy's for the delicious BBQ and stay for the live music rotation.

Junction Moto Show and Food Truck Festival

As the weather starts to cool in October, head to the Knox Foodies Food Truck Festival for some good eats from over a dozen food trucks while you enjoy some live music from local bands.

Fredericktown Tomato Show

Food trucks, vendors, live music, and more await in downtown Fredericktown at this decades old festival. The festival spans multiple days, so pick a day, grab your friends, and enjoy the afternoon.



Scan for more
local events!

Events &

Middle-Earth March Through Mount Vernon

Get your geek on and celebrate National Hobbit Day on an all-day adventure through downtown Mount Vernon. Enjoy themed games, fun costumes, Middle-Earth merch, and more during this magical event.

Mount Vernon Farmers Market

Walk around Mount Vernon's green Public Square May through October on Saturdays 9am-12pm to browse fresh produce, meats, baked goods, and more.

Centerburg Old Time Farming Festival

Celebrating Centerburg's agricultural heritage, this festival features an antique tractor show, a variety of homemade goods, horse-drawn carriage rides, and much more so you can enjoy a weekend of good old-fashioned fun.

Festivals

Chapter 8: Treat yourself





Self Care

A curated list of small businesses to explore and shop for little luxuries with friends or on your own

Help me help you take care of yourself. You're going to get bummed and burnt out eventually, or maybe you're just trying to invest in your personal wellbeing. Maybe your friend's going through a rough spot and you're desperate to give them something that'll cheer them up (gold star friend right there). Honestly, you should probably just bring your friend along to check out all the options with you in person.

THE PERFECT GIFT FOR SOMEONE

...or for yourself

Angry Acres Farm

With its barn-like storefront, this little shop brings the down-home vibes before you even set foot through the door. Inside, among the rustic displays, you can find a variety of goatmilk soaps, skin-care products, and lip-balms homemade on their farm.

Sweet Street Soda and Candy

Prepare to embrace childhood nostalgia as you step into this colorful shop. Offering a wide selection of unique candies, international brands, and wacky sodas, you're bound to find the perfect treat to satisfy your sweet tooth or challenge your friends to a dare.

Dancing Bee Farms

The perfect spot to buy things when you want to have yourself a spa day. Their menu's stacked with lotion, body butter, scrubs, and creams. Their famous bars of soap are super cute, and awesome if you've ever dealt with skin issues from harsh big brand soaps.

Kudos Art Co-op

With the work of 23 artists across every artistic medium you could think of collected in one place, it's easy to get an awesome gift for anyone at Kudos. And what's better than helping a starving artist starve just a little less?

Harmony Salt Spa

For those days when you're so stressed you just need to take a day (or an hour or two) off. They've of course got great massages and facials, but they also have more unique offerings like reiki, halotherapy, an infrared sauna, and more.

Old Mr. Bailiwick's

Super dark academia-coded apothecary that's perfect for taking pics. Once you're done with that, check out their in-house tea blends, spices, and salves for a little splurge.

Paragraph's Bookstore

You know that cozy feeling of curling up in the corner with a good book? Well, Paragraphs exudes that! And with a wide selection of books and book-related merch, they're bound to have something that tickles your fancy (book nerd or not). Plus, they frequently host author signings.

Find Familiar Games

Bright and whimsical, this small-town game store warmly welcomes all who step through their doors. And with a plethora of videogames, tabletop games, and card games for sale, free tournaments, and a large gaming space, there's plenty of nerdy fun for anyone.

Franklin Miller Observatory

On the last Friday of every month, you and your friends (or a date) can enjoy a night under the stars, while knowledgeable professors take you on an out-of-this-world tour across the sky. With telescopes on site, you'll even have the opportunity for a close-up view of the moon, planets, and nebulae.

Premiere 9 Theater

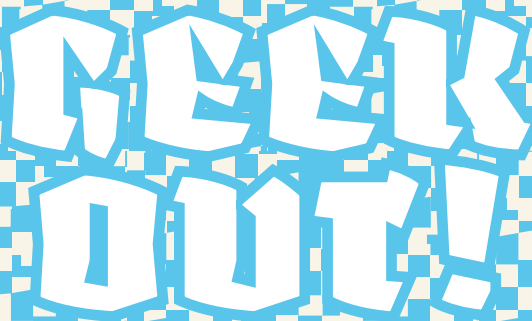
Hyped about the next big blockbuster? Instead of waiting for it to hit streaming, grab your friends and enjoy the good old fashioned theater experience, complete with fresh, buttered popcorn, soda, and reclining seats.

Fat Dog Vinyl

With tables stacked with records, walls lined with music history and memorabilia, and the smell of vintage in the air, any music connoisseur will feel at home in this laid-back shop. And they're always getting new records in, so there's always reason to go back and visit again and again!

Melanie's Barbie Collectibles and More Museum

If you love Barbie or are just looking for a unique outing, a visit to this vast collection is the perfect way to spend some free time. You'll tour multiple themed rooms, learn about the history of Barbie, and (probably) leave longing for a fancy Barbie fit. Be sure to get a pic in the lifesize Barbie box!



**GEEK
OUT!**

If you're far from home, you might be looking for a new church to plug into for the school year, or maybe you're just feeling spiritually curious. Either way, we've got you covered here too!

Spiritual Refresh

For the church-kids, these Naz churches have strong connections with MVNU and are all within a ten minute drive from campus (Lakeholm's so close you can walk there).

Lakeholm Church of the Nazarene

New Life Church of the Nazarene

First Church of the Nazarene

For a full list of local churches scan here!

(MVNU insider tip: This might help you in Christian beliefs and convictions)





Kenyon College also provides a Episcopal chapel and spaces for students of other faith backgrounds to worship and feel at home.

Thomas House

The central space of Muslim worship on Kenyon's campus, including a meditation space and Halal kitchen.

Rothenberg Hillel House

The primary location for Jewish worship that also offers a Kosher kitchen and lounge spaces.

Church of the Holy Spirit

The historic chapel offering Episcopal services on campus.

Chapter 9: Day Trips



The assignment: GO EXPLORE!

Beyond the County Line

Road Trip, But Make It Local

Here we are, the big
finisher. There's a
pretty big world
outside Knox County—
shocking, I know. Cue
gasp. So if you're
looking to get out of
town, luckily you've got
plenty of different
options to choose from.

**Fingers crossed
you don't get a
ticket!**

Ohio State Reformatory (30 miles)

You might've already seen the legendary Ohio State Reformatory if you've seen the movie *Shawshank Redemption*, or one of the other blockbusters that's used it as a movie set over the years. If you're into ghost hunting or spooky exploring, the OSR is the best spot around. Even if you're not big on scary stuff, it's gorg enough to still enjoy, too. They've always got a stacked event calendar with murder mystery dinners, haunted houses, concerts, conventions, and more on rotation to check out on their website.

Amish Country (39 miles away)

Chill for a day or two with your friends while you unplug and go acoustic in the largest Amish settlement in the world. After you've taken a pic with the World's Largest Cuckoo Clock, reconnect with nature by going to places like Yoder's Amish Home and Alpaca Meadows to show some fuzzy friends some love. They've also got plenty of great restaurants and bakeries to try while you're there; and you can definitely find a way to bring something home with all of the specialty homemade foods and gifts sold throughout the region.

W BORDERS E → LANDS

Branstool Orchards (12 miles away)

It's practically tradition to head to Branstool when the leaves turn brown while you and your friends still have free time before midterms and finals hit. Plenty of cute places for photo ops, especially while y'all pick apples in the orchard to take home. If you don't trust your roommates' abilities to put the fruit you get to good use baking-wise, don't worry— they sell plenty of their own baked goods. If you manage to time your trip right, you might even be able to pick during peach or pear season for something a little less fall-coded.

Velvet Ice Cream • Ye Olde Mill (13 miles away)

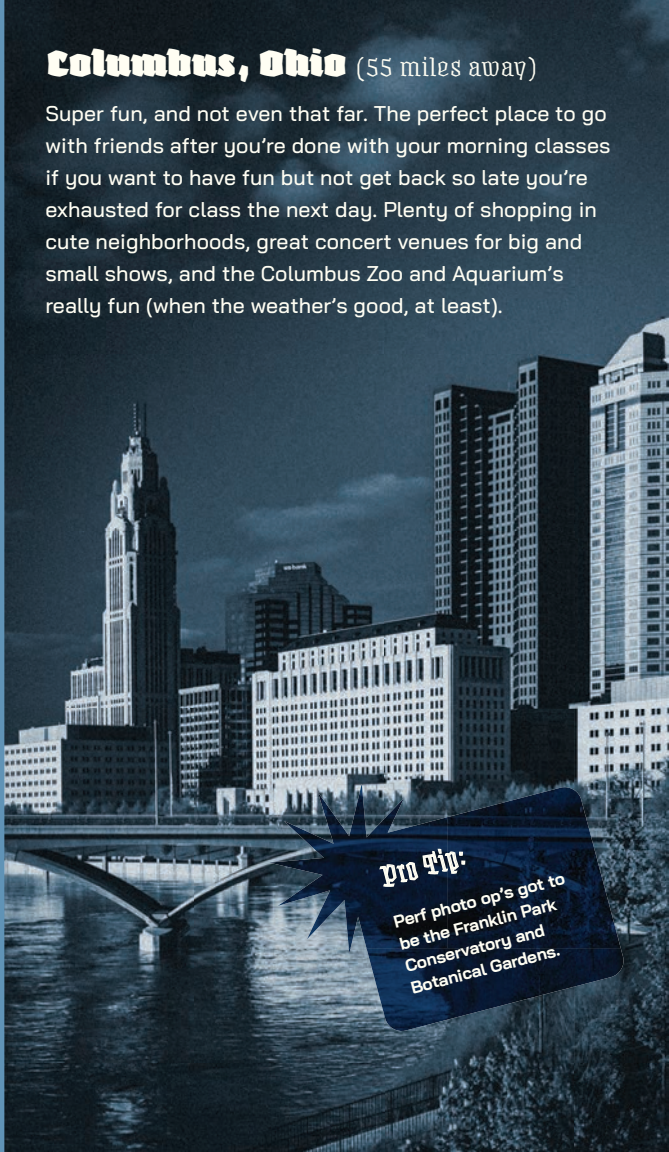
You've probably seen the brand around the grocery store, and maybe you've even tried it. Regardless, visiting Velvet Ice Cream's Ye Olde Mill is a fun, lowkey way to spend a day. This one's only open seasonally, but when it is it's a cool combination of museum, ice cream parlor, restaurant, park, arcade, and more. They've even got an event calendar with live music to check out.

Newark Earthworks (28 miles away)

It's the only UNESCO World Heritage Site in Ohio, and one of the only a couple dozen in the entire United States. If that isn't enough of a sell to check this place out, it's a really interesting spot to get a good look at some 2,000 year old Native American engineering with a museum to go along with the sights. Great option if you want to get out town but don't want to break the bank given that entry is free along with a led tour.

Columbus, Ohio (55 miles away)

Super fun, and not even that far. The perfect place to go with friends after you're done with your morning classes if you want to have fun but not get back so late you're exhausted for class the next day. Plenty of shopping in cute neighborhoods, great concert venues for big and small shows, and the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium's really fun (when the weather's good, at least).



Pro Tip:

Perf photo op's got to be the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Who doesn't love a cute bookstore? Or 19? Pick up a passport from any of the participating bookstores *cough* Paragraphs *cough* and have fun getting a cutesy stamp from each spot. Aside from Knox County's Paragraphs, the 13 other brick-and-mortar shops are all based around the Columbus area, though with that many to explore it'll definitely be a day trip in itself. To visit the 5 mobile bookstores, check out their schedules along with the rest of the other bookshops



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