

Aviation Trail, Inc.

As long as men fly . . . wherever they journey through space . . . their flights began in Dayton, Ohio, **The Birthplace of Aviation.**

Aviation Trail, Inc. was formed as a not-for-profit corporation in 1981 to use Dayton's aviation heritage to market the region. This heritage began with the invention of the airplane by Wilbur and Orville Wright in 1903 and continues on to today's aerospace projects of the future.

In laying out a self-guided tour of aviation related sites Aviation Trail uncovered two little-known original Wright brothers' buildings still standing next to each other on their original sites in Dayton's West Side. Aviation Trail, Inc. acquired and restored the two historic Wright brothers' buildings, known as the Hoover Block (site #1a) and the Wright Cycle Company (site #1c), eventually turning the property into a Wright brothers' museum complex. The restorations continued in 1992 when the **Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park** was established. The National Park Service now operates the Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center and Aviation Trail Visitor Center in partnership with Aviation Trail.



Membership

- Join
- Renew
- Donate

Help keep the Dayton area in the forefront of the world's aviation history, leadership and preservation.



Aviation Trail, Inc. Membership Application

Members of Aviation Trail, Inc. receive a subscription to the Aviation Trail email newsletter and invitations to Aviation Trail events. Mail this application together with your check made out to Aviation Trail, Inc. to:

Aviation Trail, Inc. PO Box 633 Wright Brothers Branch, Dayton OH 45409.

Or use the QR code above to securely transact memberships and donations online by credit card via PayPal.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (60+) | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting | \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$1500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$75 | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation | \$ _____ | | |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

Aviation Trail, Inc. qualifies for tax exemption under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

www.facebook.com/aviationtrailinc/

Go to the Aviation Trail website to subscribe to the Aviation Trail monthly newsletter. Keep in touch updates on all of the sites on the Aviation Trail.



www.aviationtrailinc.org

ATI-Wilbear brochure_2021-2025



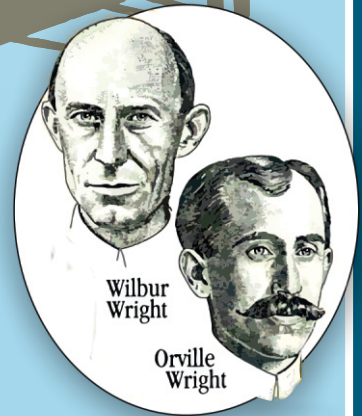
2024-2025



Visit eight locations, and receive this "Wilbear Wright" teddy bear FREE!

See Inside.

Experience the birthplace of aviation Dayton, Ohio!



© A.E. BRUNSMAN

"Follow the Trail"...with

Wilbear Wright®



www.aviationtrailinc.org

1a. Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center & Aviation Trail Visitor Center

16 South Williams Street • Dayton, OH 45402

(937) 225-7705 • *Enter through the Aviation Trail Visitor Center*

<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/visitorcenter>

and www.nps.gov/daav

Required Wilbear Site

The Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center is located in the Hoover Block building part of this complex. The Aviation Trail Visitor Center is in the Aviation Trail building. Wilbur and Orville Wright had a job printing



business in a second floor corner suite of the building from 1890 - 1895. One of their printing clients was Paul Laurence Dunbar, a former classmate of Orville Wright, and later an internationally known black poet. The name of the interpretive center reflects this special relationship. The exhibits tell about the lives of the three men and about the West Side neighborhood in which the building is located. The Hoover Block/Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center is a unit of Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.



1b. Aviation Trail Parachute Museum

16 South Williams Street • Dayton, OH 45402

(937) 225-7705

www.aviationtrailinc.org/parachute-museum

Enter through the Aviation Trail Visitor Center



The Aviation Trail Parachute Museum is located on the second floor of the Aviation Trail Visitor Center. The Museum tells the story of the development of the free fall parachute from its invention at Dayton's McCook Field after World War I, up to the vital role it plays in safely landing today's spacecraft.

The time line around the soffit of the exhibit space highlights significant events in the history of the parachute. The Museum also includes interactive exhibits, artifacts, historic photographs and text. The museum maintains what is considered one of the most comprehensive private parachute collections in the world, with research materials permanently housed at Wright State University Libraries Special Collections and Archives.



1c. The Wright Cycle Company

16 South Williams Street • Dayton, OH 45402

(937) 225-7705 • www.nps.gov/daav

Adjacent to the Aviation Trail Visitor Center.

This building is one of only two original Wright brothers' buildings still standing at their original locations in the West Side neighborhood where Wilbur and Orville lived, worked and invented the airplane. The other is the nearby Hoover Block building (Site 1a). The building was saved from demolition by Aviation Trail, Inc. before it was acquired by the National Park Service after the Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park was created in 1992. The Wright brothers operated the building from 1895 to 1897, manufacturing bicycles on the first floor and operating a job printing business on the second floor. During this period, Wilbur and Orville also took their first steps on the road to inventing the airplane, their Flyer I, in 1903.



2. Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site

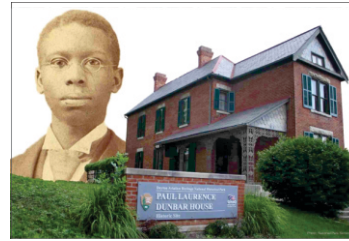
Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park

219 North Paul Laurence Dunbar St. • Dayton, OH 45402 • (937) 225-7705

<https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/paul-laurence-dunbar-house>

email: daav_info@nps.gov

Explore the life, times and creativity of an author and poet laureate at the vanguard of African American literature by visiting the restored home where Paul Laurence Dunbar lived his last years.



Dunbar lived his last years.

3a. Wright Brothers Memorial

2380 Memorial Road

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433

(937) 425-0008 • www.nps.gov/daav



The memorial is located at the top of Wright Brothers Hill, overlooking the Huffman Prairie Flying Field where Wilbur and Orville conducted tests of their early flying machines in 1904 and 1905 and where the Wright School of Aviation operated a flying school from 1910 to 1916. A plaque on the stone wall surrounding the plaza around the Memorial lists the names of the 119 pilots trained at Huffman Prairie.



3b. Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center

2380 Memorial Road • Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433

(937) 425-0008 • www.nps.gov/daav

The Interpretive Center's exhibits focus on the Wright brothers' experimental flights at Huffman Prairie Flying Field in 1904 and 1905, and on The Wright Company's flying school at Huffman Prairie from 1910 to 1916.

The Interpretive Center also covers the history of Wright-Patterson Air

Force Base from its beginnings at McCook Field in Dayton during World War I, up to its contributions to the aerospace projects of the future.



3c. Huffman Prairie Flying Field

Gate 16A off Route 444 • Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 45433

(937) 425-0008 • www.nps.gov/daav



After their historic first flights at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers continued the development of their invention at Huffman Prairie field in 1904 and 1905. Later, the Wright Company operated a flying school at Huffman Prairie from 1910 to 1916. Today, the field remains much as it was when Wilbur and Orville Wright flew their experimental airplanes over Torrence Huffman's pasture.



4. Carillon Historical Park

1000 Carillon Blvd. • Dayton, Ohio 45409 • (937) 293-2841

www.daytonhistory.org

\$ entrance fee



Among the attractions at this unique, 65-acre outdoor museum is the original 1905 Wright Flyer III, the world's first practical airplane. The Flyer III, housed in Wright Hall, was restored under the personal direction of Orville Wright. Wright Hall is flanked by the Wilbur and Orville Wright Wings and is connected to a replica of the bicycle shop in which the Wright brothers built their 1903 airplane. These buildings comprise the **John W. Berry, Sr. Wright Brothers National Museum at Carillon Historical Park**, a privately owned and operated unit of Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park.



8. Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum

118 Woodland Avenue • Dayton, Ohio 45409 • (937) 228-3221

www.woodlandcemetery.org



Wilbur and Orville Wright, their parents Milton and Susan, and their sister Katharine are buried in the Wright family lot in Section 101. Their friend, poet Paul Laurence Dunbar, and his mother Matilda, are buried nearby in the same section. Lorin Wright, brother to Wilbur and Orville, and his family are also located at Woodland in Section 122 in a lot near the pond. The Lookout, the highest natural point in the city, provides a panoramic view of downtown Dayton. Download our mobile app for self-guided tours and maps showing the locations of the graves of prominent Daytonians.



5. National Museum of the United States Air Force™

1100 Spaatz St. • Dayton, OH 45433 • (937) 255-3286

www.nationalmuseum.af.mil



The world's largest military aviation museum features more than 360 aerospace vehicles and missiles from the beginnings of military flight to today's stealth technology. Thousands of personal artifacts, photographs and documents further highlight the people and events that comprise the Air Force storyline. Tour the 19 acres of indoor exhibit space and see noteworthy aircraft such as the only

permanent public exhibit of a B-2 stealth bomber, and the B-17 Memphis Belle™, one of the most recognizable symbols of World War II, and board the space shuttle exhibit and four of nine presidential aircraft. While at the museum you can ride a flight simulator, enjoy a 3D movie, eat in one of the two cafés, and shop in the museum store. Open 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. Free admission and free parking.



9. Wright "B" Flyer

Dayton-Wright Brothers Airport

10550 Springboro Pike (Rt. 741)

Miamisburg, Ohio 45342

(937) 885-2327

www.wright-b-flyer.org

<https://www.facebook.com/WrightBFlyer/>



The Wright "B" Flyer is a flyable look-alike of the world's first mass-produced airplane, manufactured in The Wright Company factory in Dayton from 1910 to 1911. The look alike was built by a group of local aviation enthusiasts and the airplane is housed in a hangar that is similar to the Wright brothers' 1910 hangar at Huffman Prairie Flying Field.



6. National Aviation Hall of Fame

P.O. Box 31096 • Dayton, Ohio 45437 • (937) 256-0944

1100 Spaatz St, Dayton, OH 45433 • www.nationalaviation.org



The Hall of Fame is co-mingled with the National Museum of the United States Air Force (Site 5). The National Aviation Hall of Fame has been adding up to five inductees each year since 1962. The exhibits in the Learning and Research Center tell the story of the history of American aviation with the emphasis on the aviation pioneers who made major contributions to its development.

The Harry B. Combs Research Center includes a wall with the portraits of each of the enshrines, as well as interactive access to information about each of the individuals. Other attractions include interactive exhibits and displays organized around the theme of notable eras in the history of aviation in the United States.



10. Wright State University

3640 Colonel Glenn Highway • Dayton, Ohio 45435

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library

(937) 775-2092 <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/>



Wright State University, named for Wilbur and Orville Wright, is home to the world's largest Wright brothers' manuscript collection. Housed in Special Collections and Archives, it includes the Wrights' own technical and personal library, family papers, letters, diaries, financial records, genealogical files, awards, certificates, medals, albums, recordings, and technical drawings, as well as over 4,000 photographs documenting the invention of the airplane and the lives of the Wright Family. The Archives also holds over 400 additional aviation history collections. A full scale replica of the Wrights' 1903 Flyer hangs in the library atrium and selected items from the collections are on exhibit in the Archives' Reading Room.



7. Hawthorn Hill

(Tours provided by Carillon Historical Park)

1000 Carillon Blvd. • Dayton, Ohio 45409 • (937) 293-2841

www.daytonhistory.org

\$ entrance fee



Wednesdays and Saturdays by advance, prepaid reservation



Experience the Oakwood mansion that Orville Wright called home for nearly 35 years. The home of the man who invented flight and changed the world is available for educational tours. **Tours are by reservation.**



Start your tour at one of the four Wilbear Headquarters* where staff is available to get you started with site information and travel directions. Starting points are indicated with an orange asterisk.



Wilbear sites are indicated with a picture of Wilbear. Site #1a is a required Wilbear Site.

Map of ATI sites



11. Historic WACO Field and Airplane Museum

1865 S. County Rd. 25A • Troy, Ohio 45373 • (937) 335-9226

www.wacoairmuseum.org

\$ entrance fee



The WACO airfield is a working airfield reminiscent of the grass airfields of the 1930s and 1940s, the approximate era (mid-1920s to World War II) during which the airplanes built at the



WACO factory in Troy dominated the civilian airplane market. The WACO Airplane Museum includes aircraft, artifacts, historic photographs and other exhibits related to the WACO Aircraft Company and the aircraft it produced. In addition to the museum, the airfield buildings also house a Learning Center, vintage aircraft restoration area, reference library and gift shop. Also, one section of the airfield is available for radio-controlled model airplane flying throughout the year.

12. Armstrong Air & Space Museum

500 Apollo Dr. • Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895 • (419) 738-8811

www.armstrongmuseum.org

\$ entrance fee



Opened on July 20, 1972, the Armstrong Air & Space Museum chronicles Ohio's contributions to the history of aeronautics and spaceflight. Located in the historic hometown of Neil Armstrong, the first person to step foot on the Moon, the museum is also home to a number of world-class artifacts including the original Gemini VIII spacecraft, two of Armstrong's NASA spacesuits, and an Apollo 11 Moon rock. Not a static museum, but features numerous interactive exhibits and other audio/visual elements. Be sure to check out the Astro-Theater, where visitors can watch a 25-minute documentary on the Apollo 11 Moon landing.



13. Champaign Aviation Museum (CAM)

1652 N. Main St. • Urbana, Ohio 43078 • 937-652-4710

www.ChampaignAviationMuseum.org • Open Tuesday - Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Free Admission, Donations Appreciated



With a reputation as a center of excellence for the restoration and maintenance of World War II era aircraft, CAM honors our Veterans and their families while educating the public about the experiences of past generations that flew in combat. CAM offers visitors a rare,

hands-on opportunity to learn about aviation history and to engage with Museum volunteers as they restore the B-17 *Champaign Lady Flying Fortress*. Additional aircraft at CAM include an operational B-25 *Champaign Gal*, F-24 Fairchild, Stinson 10A, and C-1A *Mudflap Girl*, and on static display a C-47 Skytrain, A-26 Invader, and Beechcraft Model 18.



14. Grimes Flying Lab

1636 N. Main St. • Urbana, Ohio 43078

<https://n8640e.wixsite.com/grimesflyinglab>

or www.facebook.com/GrimesFlyingLab

Located at Grimes Field in Urbana, the "lab" is a Beech 18 that served the U.S. Air Forces as a C-45 and was modified to a C-45H as a test bed for aircraft nighttime lighting systems.

The aircraft was a valuable tool for engineers who worked for Warren G. Grimes, the father of aircraft lighting, before and during World War II to advance developments for safer flight at night. Grimes produced his first airplane lights in his garage in 1933 and by World War II his company had grown to produce lighting for military aviation. Besides memorabilia from Grimes' life and Grimes Manufacturing Co., historical and modern aircraft lighting products are displayed.



15. Tri-State Warbird Museum

4021 Borman Dr. • Batavia, Ohio 45103 • (513) 735-4500

www.tri-statewarbirdmuseum.org

\$ entrance fee



The Tri-State Warbird Museum was formed in 2003 with a commitment to preserve the aircraft of World War II, educate visitors on America's role in WWII, and to honor the veterans who fought and those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Originally constructed as a 12,000 sq. foot hangar and 5,000 sq. foot museum display space at the Clermont County Airport, the Tri-State Warbird Museum was completed and opened to the public in 2004. Over 1.5 million people have toured the facility and/or seen the restored aircraft gracing the skies at airshows around the country. In 2011, through a generous donation, an additional 12,000 sq. foot hangar and storage/shop space was added. This has a "Bomber Hangar" with space to display the aircraft and provide a wonderful educational tour. Continuing to grow, the Tri-State Warbird Museum aircraft collection now consists of nine significant WWII aircraft with additional acquisitions planned for the future. The museum seeks to play a significant role in the education of American history to our local young generation.



16. Butler County Warbirds, Inc.

Headquartered at Middletown Regional Airport
2351 Wedekind Drive. • Middletown, Ohio 45042
(513) 702-3062 • <http://www.bcwarbirds.com>

Butler County Warbirds Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, was formed for the purpose of educating and entertaining individuals of all ages on the historical importance of aviation while America was at war, and to celebrate our heroes through the preservation of their aircraft and memorabilia as we share their stories.

We're located at the Middletown Regional Airport. The museum display is open to the public on Saturday and Sunday 10 AM - 5 PM and admission is free. Flight experiences can be reserved in our '43 Fairchild PT-19 Trainer. Experience flight in this historic WWII aircraft which trained many of the WWII aces and bomber pilots of the 1940s. Reservations or additional information can be obtained via email : tim@bcwarbirds.com, or telephone (513) 702-3062.



17. Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center

Sinclair College • 444 West Third Street • Dayton, Ohio 45402

(937) 512-4900 • uascenter@sinclair.edu

<https://uas.sinclair.edu/>

Located on the Sinclair College Dayton Campus in Building 13, the Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center and Aviation Technology facilities lead the nation in Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) and traditional aviation training and education, applied research and development, consulting, and STEM outreach. The site's Wilbear stamp and additional information about the facility and programs are available at a kiosk located in the first-floor lobby and free parking is available in Lot K off Perry Street. Visitors can complete a self-guided tour of the glass-walled facility during normal college hours, which are posted on the primary college website at www.sinclair.edu.



Aviation Trail, Inc.

A non-profit corporation in partnership with the National Park Service to promote aviation heritage in the Dayton region

Aviation Trail, Inc. • 16 South Williams Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402
(937) 225-7705 • avtrailinc@gmail.com

PO Box 633, Wright Brothers Branch, Dayton, OH 45409

www.aviationtrailinc.org

Aviation Trail Gift Shop

Aviation Trail products are in stock at the Dayton History Carillon Historical Park Museum Store and online store.



See the **GIFT SHOP** menu item on the ATI website at:

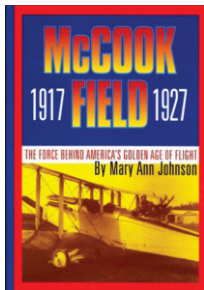
<https://www.aviationtrailinc.org/>
or click or scan the QR code.



All transactions will be purchased from, processed by, and fulfilled by **Dayton History**, and can either be shipped to the purchaser or held for pick-up at **Carillon Historical Park Museum Store** at 1000 Carillon Historical Park, Dayton, OH 45409, (937) 293-2841. The products are in stock at the Carillon Historical Park Museum Store.

Now available on the Aviation Trail Gift Shop page:

McCook Field 1917-1927 The Force Behind America's Golden Age of Flight by the late Mary Ann Johnson covers the fascinating decade of Dayton's McCook Field and its extensive contributions to aviation technology.



The author, who passed away in 2015 at the age of 93, was a founding member of Aviation Trail, Inc. which was formed in 1981 to promote Dayton's aviation heritage and continues to promote the various trail sites in the area that have unique and significant importance in this rich aviation heritage. This book is a definitive source of information on an historic site on the Aviation Trail.

Gift items include: T-Shirts, Tumblers, Caps, Lapel Pins, Magnets, Art Prints, Note Cards, & McCook Field Book.

Coming Soon: A new updated version of the Aviation Trail "Field Guide to Flight" book.

Shirts



Collectable Art Prints

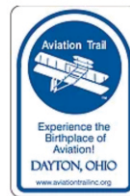


Caps

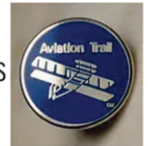


Tumblers

Magnets



Pins



Note Cards & Envelopes



McCook Field Book

See details on gift shop page.

Visit the Aviation Trail online gift shop!

Your purchase of Aviation Trail merchandise helps us to uphold our mission of promoting awareness of the Dayton area's aviation heritage, and supporting education, preservation and restoration of that heritage.

Aviation Trail, Inc. 2024- 2025*



Wilbear Wright® Program

Hi, I'm Wilbear Wright®

Welcome to the Aviation Trail!

Program Rules

Visit **8** of the 17 Aviation Trail sites and receive a "Wilbear Wright®" teddy bear FREE!

- One **required** site: **Site #1a** - Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center
- One passport brochure stamp per person per site visit
- Passport form must be filled out completely (mailing and email address)
- One free "Wilbear Wright®" teddy bear per person

To claim your bear in person:
Take the completed Passport (**8 stamps minimum**) to any of the following distribution sites:

- **Site #4** Dayton History (Carillon Park)
- **Site #9** Wright "B" Flyer
- **Site #11** WACO Air Museum
- **Site #12** Armstrong Air & Space Museum
- **Site #13** Champaign Aviation Museum
- **Site #15** Tri-State Warbird Museum
- **Site #16** Butler County Warbirds

Note: Please check the Aviation Trail website "Trail Sites" page for any status changes on distribution sites and other Wilbear announcements. (Scan QR code at right).



To receive your bear by U.S. Postal Service:

Send **completed Passport** and a **\$7.50 check** for shipping and handling to:
Aviation Trail, Inc. • PO Box 633 • Wright Brothers Branch • Dayton, OH 45409
(Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery)

Starting points are indicated with an orange asterisk on site listings.

- Start your tour at one of the four Wilbear Headquarters where staff is available to get you started with site information and travel directions.
- The **Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center (Site #1a)** is **required** to qualify for a Wilbear.

* Offer good while supplies last.

This 2024 "Wilbear Wright®" Program will end on **June 30, 2025**

Open Space for
Special Aviation
Trail Events



6. National Aviation Hall of Fame



12. Armstrong Air & Space Museum



5. National Museum of the United States Air Force



11. Historic WACO Field and Airplane Museum



17. Sinclair National UAS Training and Certification Center



4. Carillon Historical Park
Wright Brothers National Museum



10. Wright State University Library Special Collections & Archives



16. Butler County Warbirds, Inc.



3b. Huffman Prairie Flying Field Interpretive Center



9. Wright "B" Flyer



15. Tri-State Warbird Museum



2. Paul Laurence Dunbar House Historic Site



8. Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum



14. Grimes Flying Lab



1a. Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center
1b. Aviation Trail Parachute Museum
1c. Wright Cycle Company



7. Hawthorn Hill - (tours provided by Carillon Historical Park)



13. Champaign Aviation Museum

Tour a minimum of eight of the 17 amazing aviation sites listed in this brochure. Receive a stamp at the one **required site***, **Wright-Dunbar Interpretive Center**, plus a minimum of seven of the remaining sites to qualify. Only one passport accepted per visitor. *Offer good while supplies last.*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____