

Five Uniquely Northern Kentucky Story Starters

"The Spirited Destination"

1. Northern Kentucky is the gateway to **Bourbon** Country. Any great bourbon adventure begins at CVG International Airport and NKY is home to four distilleries on the Kentucky Bourbon Trail Craft Tour, the little sister to the world-famous Kentucky Bourbon Trail as well as **The B-Line**, a carefully crafted Bourbon collection of distilleries, bars, and restaurants. **New Riff Distilling** in historic Newport, Ky. is a real urban bourbon experience with a four-story soaring still that has been operational for four years. **Boone County Distilling**, on the outskirts of NKY, is the newest distillery added to the Craft Tour and has a history of being haunted by the ghosts of bourbon past. In fact, their trade brand is "Made By Ghosts." **Old Pogue Distillery** in nearby Maysville, Ky. has been making bourbon since 1876. In addition to the three Craft Distilleries in NKY, there is a vibrant community of spirits makers crafting rum, gin and many other Kentucky potables. **Neeley Family Distillery** borders the Kentucky Speedway track in Sparta, Ky., and shares a unique story of 11 generations of illegal distilling history.
2. NKY is home to many spirited and faith-based family-friendly attractions. Located in the rolling hills of NKY is the biblical reproduction, full-scale Noah's Ark, the newly-opened **Ark Encounter**. Featuring a seven-story, 500-foot-long replica of the Ark with many interactive exhibits, the ark also boasts the World's Largest Café, Emzara's, with more than 1,300 seats. NKY is also home to the **Creation Museum**, dedicated to bringing biblical stories to life.
3. Before there was Las Vegas, there was **Newport, Ky.** This little river town across from downtown Cincinnati once had a gambling reputation larger than Vegas. Travel the historic streets of Newport and learn all about the gangster wars that raged on the streets where fortunes were bet, won and lost. Experience a **Newport Gangster Tour** to see the place where the Tommy Gun was invented and learn more about how it became the gangsters' claim to fame.
4. NKY is home to one of Oprah's favorite things, **Donna Salyers' Fabulous Furs**. These amazing faux furs are becoming an industry standard for luxury without the cruelty of common fur trades. Based in downtown Covington, Ky. across the river from Cincinnati, the Salyers name has come to represent hand-crafted quality and elegance. The family is also deeply tied to the tourism industry after opening the new **Hotel Covington**. The hotel curates the regional experience in the historic Coppin's department store building, built in 1907. From a department store to Covington's City Hall, and now to a world-class boutique hotel, Hotel Covington is filled with history and unique features, including a signature Donna Salyers Fabulous Fur throw in every room.
5. **Sports** reign in NKY and Cincinnati with two professional sports teams, the **Cincinnati Reds** and the **Cincinnati Bengals**, as well as one of the fastest growing soccer franchises in the U.S., **FC Cincinnati**. Cincinnati is also the proud host of one of the best loved qualifying events for the Boston Marathon, the **Flying Pig Marathon**. But our athletic spirit doesn't stop with professional sports... We live to cheer on our five regional University teams and celebrate our sporting spirit every day in parks, fields and even parking lots around the region.



Northern Kentucky News Worthy & New Developments

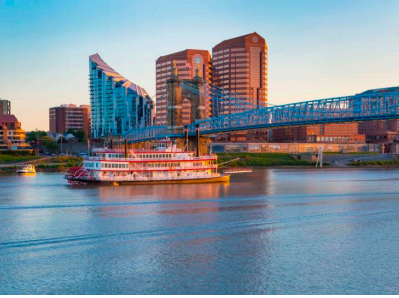
New Hotels: The **Aloft at Newport on the Levee** is the first of its kind in Cincinnati and presents a unique offering for Newport on the Levee, home of Newport Aquarium. This riverfront boutique hotel is perfectly appointed and detailed with regional amenities and located in the center of the action across from downtown Cincinnati. Downtown Covington is quickly growing with the opening of **Hotel Covington** following a \$22 million renovation of a former department store building. The boutique hotel embraces the Covington culture of reinvention, destination dining and adaptive design elements derived from its landmark. The hotel also boasts a restaurant, **Coppin's**, which features southern cuisine as well as extensive Bourbon offerings.

New Attractions: The **Ark Encounter** in suburban NKY is Kentucky's newest & largest attraction and invites visitors to explore a full-size replica of Noah's Ark in biblical scope. The Ark also boasts the largest zipline course in the South as well as a petting zoo and a 1,300-seat café. **The B-Line**, a carefully crafted Bourbon collection of distilleries, bars, and restaurants was launched in 2018.

New Airport Offering: **CVG International Airport** boasts the best airlift of any destination in Kentucky. With more than 210 daily flights to 55 destinations, CVG gives instant access to offerings in NKY and Cincinnati. **Southwest Airlines** began operations at CVG in 2017 with new flights to Chicago's Midway Airport and Baltimore's International Airport. CVG also offers Kentucky's only international flight to Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport.

Neighborhood Renaissance: On the National Historic Register, **MainStrasse Village's** German influences date back to its founding in the mid-1800's, when the area was flush with new immigrants. While this heavily residential, cobblestoned neighborhood is known for street festivals, pub dining and quirky boutiques & shops, an infusion of top culinary talent has taken root here in recent years, elevating quaint MainStrasse to one of the region's go-to urban neighborhoods for foodies & culinary fun-seekers. Don't miss the Goose Girl Fountain and Carroll Chimes Glockenspiel Tower – the village's most iconic symbols – and be sure to eat like a local by frequenting these favorites:

- **Bouquet Restaurant & Wine Bar** – Rated one of the top 10 restaurants in CincinnatiUSA and nestled in the heart of MainStrasse Village, Bouquet offers a visually stunning dining experience driven by top-notch service and chef/owner Stephen Williams' passion for finding inspiration in seasonal and local sourcing.
- **Otto's** – This intimate, refined American bistro was at the vanguard of a food renaissance in MainStrasse Village when it opened in 2003. Today, Otto's and its new cousin, Frida 602, are among an elite handful of chef-owned eateries that are redefining this historic German-themed village. While delicious imaginative fare permeates Otto's menus, loyal regulars can't get enough of their signature salads, indulgent options like fried green tomatoes or a Kentucky Hot Brown, and inspired entrees including Filet Otto's, Shrimp & Grits and Bourbon Marinated Pork.
- **Frida 602** – Inspired by the life and art of Frida Kahlo, this vibrant, high-energy restaurant features fresh takes on authentic Mexican cuisine and a tasty collection of tequilas and mezcals, all set to the backdrop of quirky contemporary art.
- **Old Kentucky Bourbon Bar** – Old Kentucky Bourbon Bar, or "OKBB," is home to a staggering bourbon collection and bartenders so well-versed in America's native spirit that you'll instantly know you're on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River.
- **Lisse Steakhuis** – A new addition to NKY's historic MainStrasse Village, Lisse is a Dutch steakhouse in the renovated Chez Nora building. Lisse features a fairly traditional American steakhouse menu, but also includes some offerings from the Dutch culinary tradition.
- **Commonwealth Bistro** – The newest culinary offering in MainStrasse Village, the bistro is known for doing Kentucky culinary traditions in a fusion and upscale fashion. With locally sourced offerings and historic based recipes, the bistro delights the most demanding culinary critics.



Northern Kentucky 101

Northern Kentucky, the top of the South & the end of the North, is perfectly situated along the Ohio River across from big sister Cincinnati. Encompassing the historic towns of Newport and Covington as well as the suburban centers along the Covington/Cincinnati International Airport, NKY is a strong part of the Cincinnati USA region with its roots firmly planted in Kentucky.

Famous Northern Kentuckians:

George Clooney: Raised along the Ohio River in Augusta, Ky., George attended Northern Kentucky University before becoming a box-office smash in Hollywood. George returned to his NKY roots while in CincinnatiUSA to film the award-winning *Ides of March* in 2012.

John T. Thompson: Born and raised in Newport, Ky., this U.S. Army General is well-known known for his creation of the first automatic machine gun, the Thompson Gun or Tommy Gun.

Frank Duveneck: Born and raised in Covington, Ky., Frank is a painter, sculptor and educator known for many local art pieces. Duveneck Square in downtown Covington is named for him.

Nicholas Joseph "Nick" Clooney: Born in Maysville, Ky., Nick has worn many hats over the years: journalist, politician, anchorman, game show host. But his most well-known roles may be father of actor & film director George Clooney and brother of Rosemary Clooney.

Daniel Carter Beard: American illustrator, author, youth leader and social reformer who founded Boy Scouts of America in 1910. Daniel lived in Covington, near the Licking River, where he learned the stories of Kentucky pioneer life.

Rosemary Clooney: Born in Maysville, Ky., Rosemary came to prominence in the early 1950s and received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002. One of her most memorable acting roles was in *White Christmas* with Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye.

Heather Renee French Henry: Born in Augusta, Ky., this Miss America 2000 has received numerous awards for her work with veterans.

Josh Hutcherson: Born in Union, Ky., Josh is the star of numerous critically acclaimed and award-winning films including *The Kids Are All Right* (2010), *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island* (2012), and played the main character, Peeta Mellark, in *The Hunger Games* (2012) series.

NKY Facts

Population: 384,790 (2015)

Metro Population: Northern Kentucky is part of the CincinnatiUSA MSA encompassing 2,137,406 people and is the 28th largest metro area in the U.S.

Major Cities: Covington, Newport, Florence, Erlanger, Hebron, Union, Fort Thomas, Bellevue

Airport: CVG International Airport serviced by Delta, United, Frontier, Allegiant, Southwest, Apple Air

Signature Events: Cincinnati Flying Pig Marathon, held the first Saturday of May, is a qualifier for the Boston Marathon. The second-largest multi-cultural music event in the U.S., P&G Music Fusion Weekend, is hosted here in July. Oktoberfest Cincinnati occurs the second weekend in October and is the largest Oktoberfest outside of Munich, Germany.

Professional Sports: Cincinnati Reds: season April – October. Cincinnati Bengals: season September – December.

Arts in Region: 100 plus arts & culture venues in the region including ballet, pops orchestra, chamber orchestra, Opera, Broadway theater and more.

Culinary: Germanic and Southern fusion cuisine with a dash of bourbon and a craft beer from the more than 32 active breweries in the region.