



Private Group Programming at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill

DAYTIME PROGRAMS

- Generally offered Tuesday-Sunday, between 9AM-5PM
- Fees: \$18/person for 1st program, \$10/person for each additional program (15-person minimum)
- Includes general admission to Shaker Village (access to all exhibits and public programs)

Discover Pleasant Hill (60 minutes) – A guided walk along Shaker Village’s turnpike and through 1-2 buildings in the Historic Centre, this introductory program provides context for the Shakers and the history of Pleasant Hill.

Buildings and Beliefs (60 minutes) – The architecture of Pleasant Hill is a physical representation of many of the Shakers’ spiritual beliefs. This program explores several of Pleasant Hill’s buildings with an eye toward the connections between the Shakers’ religious practices and their architectural choices.

**This program traverses several flights of stairs.*

War Comes to Zion (60 minutes) – The Shakers were committed pacifists but were unable to fully avoid the nation’s deadliest war. Soldiers camped in the village, marched on its roads on their way to the Perryville Battlefield and traded control of its vital ferry on the Kentucky River. Discover how the Pleasant Hill Shakers coped with the upheaval of the American Civil War.

Experience the Farm (60 minutes) – Learn the basics of sustainable, diversified agriculture and how Shaker Village melds Shaker traditions and contemporary farming practices. Meet our “farmily” – from ducks to horses – and learn about the important roles they all serve in our seed-to-table farming operation.

**This program is available seasonally, from April-October.*

African American Experiences at Pleasant Hill (60 minutes) – Trace 100 years of African American history and culture at Pleasant Hill. Uncover the paths of unique individuals who each spent a considerable portion of their lives at Pleasant Hill in very different ways and visit the work places and homes of African Americans who helped to shape the community.

Preserve Hike (60 minutes) – Pleasant Hill has over 1,000 acres of preserved woodland and prairie, providing habitat to a diverse assortment of wildlife. Learn about one of North America’s rarest ecosystems – a restored native prairie – while taking a peaceful ramble along Shaker Village’s hiking trails.

**This program traverse 1.5-3.0 miles of uneven terrain; weather dependent.*

Shaker Music (45 minutes) – The Shakers valued unity and community very highly, and their music is built around the ultimate goal of connection – connection to God, but also connection to the people and community around them. Hear traditional Shaker songs and see demonstrations of Shaker dance during this program.

EVENING TOURS

- Generally offered Tuesday-Sunday, between 5PM-8PM
- Fees: \$12/person (15-person minimum)

Pleasant Hill After Dark (60 minutes) – For more than 100 years, the Shakers of Pleasant Hill managed without electricity, lighting their community with candles and lamps. On this lantern-lit evening tour, we’ll follow in the footsteps of the Shakers and experience their buildings by flickering candlelight as we share stories about life at Pleasant Hill after dark.

**This program traverses several flights of stairs.*

Spirit Strolls: Death & Tragedy at Pleasant Hill (60 minutes) – While the Shakers strove to create an earthly paradise, they could not escape the realities of human life—disease, violence, and death were present at every stage of Pleasant Hill’s history. We’ll explore the darker side of the Village with a lantern-lit walk to the cemetery, stopping along the way for surprising tales of everything from headless corpses to violent feuds.

Christmas by Candlelight (60 minutes) – Join us for a candlelit tour through several of Shaker Village’s historic buildings while they are festively decorated for the holidays. Together, we’ll trace the progression of the Shakers’ beliefs and practices, gaining a deeper understanding of the history of Christmas in America.

**This program traverses several flights of stairs; available in December.*

NIGHT HIKES

- Generally offered Tuesday-Sunday, between 5PM-10PM
- Fees: \$20/person (15-person minimum)
- All Night Hikes include 1.5-3.0 miles of walking and are weather dependent.

Night Hike (90-120 minutes) – Take an evening hike through Shaker Village’s Preserve and enjoy the wonders of the nighttime natural world. Topics change seasonally, ranging from an autumn “owl prow” to a summertime firefly hike.

SHAKER-INSPIRED CRAFT WORKSHOPS

- Generally offered Tuesday-Sunday, between 9AM-5PM

Dipped Beeswax Candles (60-90 minutes) - During Pleasant Hill's heyday, the Shakers cultivated dozens of beehives, valuing the bees both for their important role as pollinators and for their production of honey and wax. We'll discuss Shaker Village's continuation of this long tradition, including sampling some honey from our hives, before making our own candles over an open fire.

\$30/person

8-person min. / 30-person max. (per instructor)

Turkey Wing Brooms (90-120 minutes) - We're returning to the folk art tradition of broommaking that originally inspired the Shakers, making our own hand-tied brooms without special machinery or equipment. Our "turkey wing" brooms, made of hemp cord and natural broomcorn, are as decorative as they are useful.

\$40/person

8-person min. / 16-person max. (per instructor)

Herbs for Home & Health (60 minutes) - The Shakers grew, prepared and sold herbs for many purposes across the country. Learn about different herbs and how they can be used to make all natural products for your home and body. We'll make several products to take home or give as gifts.

\$25/person

8-person min. / 20-person max. (per instructor)

Holiday Reed Stars (90-120 minutes) - Embrace the holiday season with festive, handmade decorations! These elaborate stars, woven out of reed dyed in an assortment of colors, look beautiful on a Christmas tree or adorning a wreath, and they also make the perfect holiday gift.

\$40/person

8-person min. / 16-person max. (per instructor)

CARRIAGE & WAGON RIDES

- Generally offered Tuesday-Sunday, between 9AM-8PM
- Fees: \$300 for the first hour; \$100 for each additional hour

Horse-Drawn Carriage Rides (60 minutes) – Meet our friendly team of draft horses and journey through the historic Village in our horse-drawn carriage. Along the way, enjoy learning about Shaker history and culture from one of our trained interpreters.

**Limited to 12 people/ride; weather dependent.*

Wagon Rides (60 minutes) – There's no better way to maximize your views of Shaker Village's 3,000 acres than to take a tractor-pulled wagon ride! An interpreter will provide a narrated program as you traverse the rolling hills of Central Kentucky in style.

**Limited to 25 people/ride.*