



Private Group Programming at Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill

DAYTIME PROGRAMS

- Generally offered Wednesday-Sunday (January-March) and Tuesday-Sunday (April-December), between 9AM-5PM. Daytime tours and exhibits access may be available after hours (5-8PM) on a limited basis.
- Fees: \$18/person for 1st program, \$10/person for each additional program (minimum of 15 paying guests)
- Includes general admission to Shaker Village (access to all exhibits and public programs)
- Shaker Village programs include a mix of indoor and outdoor spaces and generally run rain or shine. Programs will be modified in case of severe inclement weather (thunderstorms, snowstorm, etc.)
- ***All programs include traversing unpaved terrain and ascending/descending steps (some programs may be modified with advance notice)***

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.

**Strongly recommended as an introduction to Pleasant Hill to be taken before additional programs.*

Buildings and Beliefs (45-60 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.

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 (45-60 minutes) – Learn the basics of sustainable, diversified agriculture and how Shaker Village melds Shaker traditions and contemporary farming practices. Meet our “family” – 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 (45-60 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 workplaces and homes of African Americans who helped to shape the community.

Preserve Hike (60-90 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.*

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 Wednesday-Sunday (January-March) and Tuesday-Sunday (April-December), between 5PM-8PM
- Fees: \$12/person (minimum of 15 paying guests)
- Does NOT include general admission to Shaker Village exhibits and public tours (\$14/person)
- Shaker Village programs include a mix of indoor and outdoor spaces and generally run rain or shine. Programs will be modified in case of severe inclement weather (thunderstorms, snowstorm, etc.)

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.*

Naughty at Night (60 minutes) – For the Shakers, temptation and sin lurked just around the corner! A plethora of rules governed all aspects of life in the community - from when brethren and sisters could meet socially to what foods were acceptable on the dinner table. We'll take a special stroll through some of our historic buildings as we share stories about the naughtier side of life at Pleasant Hill.

**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 November-December.*

NIGHT HIKES

- Generally offered Wednesday-Sunday (January-March) and Tuesday-Sunday (April-December), between 5PM-10PM
- Fees: \$20/person (minimum of 15 paying guests)
- All Night Hikes include 1.5-3.0 miles of walking on uneven terrain
- Does NOT include general admission to Shaker Village exhibits and public tours (\$14/person)
- Hikes generally run rain or shine; programs will be modified or cancelled in case of severe inclement weather (thunderstorms, snowstorm, etc.)

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 prowl” to a summertime firefly hike.

SHAKER-INSPIRED CRAFT WORKSHOPS

- Generally offered Wednesday-Sunday (January-March) and Tuesday-Sunday (April-December), between 9AM-8PM
- Fees are charged per person, based on the number of participants completing the activity (minimum of 10 paying guests)
- Includes general admission to Shaker Village (access to all exhibits and public programs)
- Maximum group size of listed per session; certain workshops may be able to run with concurrent sessions
- Workshop durations are approximate; activities may take less time with smaller groups

Dipped Beeswax Candles (45-75 minutes / 30-person maximum) - 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

Candles with Essential Oils (45-75 minutes / 20-person maximum) – We'll talk about some of the basics of distilling essential oils and techniques for selecting scent combinations in this hands-on program. Then, we'll use soy wax and a selection of scents to make our own custom candles in glass apothecary jars.
\$30/person

Beginning Brooms (60-90 minutes / 16-person maximum) – In this introduction to broommaking, we'll explore the natural materials that the Shakers used to make their brooms and make our own useful products to take home. Participants will make a whisk broom and a pot scrubber.
\$30/person

Turkey Wing Brooms (60-90 minutes / 16-person maximum) - We're returning to the folk-art tradition of broom making 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

Holiday Reed Stars (60-90 minutes / 16-person maximum) - 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. Each participant will make one large (8-inch) reed star.

\$25/person

Beeswax Ornaments (45-60 minutes / 20-person maximum) - Inspired by the German tradition of using beeswax to create beautiful ornaments, we'll walk through the process of using ceramic molds to make decorations of pure beeswax. Participants will then get to choose from an assortment of provided mold options, making 2 ornaments to take home. Available molds include holiday-themed designs as well as more traditional folk art designs, animals, and more – perfect for every season.

\$25/person

WAGON RIDES

- Generally offered Wednesday-Sunday (January-March) and Tuesday-Sunday (April-December), between 9AM-8PM
- Fees: \$375 for the first hour; \$150 for each additional hour
- Does NOT include general admission to Shaker Village exhibits and public tours (\$14/person)

Hay 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.*