



## GO GREEN IN COLUMBUS

*Going green has never been so much fun! Columbus is filled with restaurants and attractions that pride themselves on being environmentally sensitive. Explore one of the nation's most unusual Audubon centers, meet farmers and use herbs in everything from pizza to bath products on this two-day tour.*

### DAY ONE

Explore the **Grange Insurance Audubon Center**, one of the first Audubon centers close to the core of a major American city. Built with recycled construction materials, it opened in 2009 after a major reclamation effort. From capturing run-off rain water to using alternative energy sources for heating and cooling, the center serves as a model for sustainable design. Be sure to look outside the building too. It's positioned on a major migratory bird flyway.



*View nature at the Grange Insurance Audubon Center*

Stroll through the gardens at **Franklin Park Conservatory's** new Scotts Miracle-Gro Community Garden Campus. Hand select seasonably available pizza toppings from the garden and custom create a delicious wood-fired pizza for lunch! A Conservatory specialist will guide you through the process of harvesting and cooking in the outdoor Live Fire Cooking Theater. Stroll through the indoor gardens and admire the Conservatory's permanent collection of colorful glass art by Dale Chihuly.

Hit the art galleries, boutiques and eclectic specialty stores in the **Short North Arts District**, which houses one of the best collections of art galleries between New York and Chicago.

Enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants in the Short North that build their menus around local food. Choices include **Betty's**, **Surly Girl** and the organic-focused **Northstar Cafe**. *(They even make sure the wait staff wears organic cotton shirts!)* For dessert, stop by the award-winning **Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams**, known for using fresh Ohio grown ingredients.

### DAY TWO

Start the day in downtown's best-hidden oasis — the rooftop garden atop the historic **Lazarus Building**, the largest LEED gold-certified building in the nation. Originally built in 1909 as a department store, the building was completely remodeled in 2007 with environmentally friendly finishes such as bamboo flooring, recycled plastic baseboards and recycled glass terrazzo. Start the tour on the street level at the **OSU Urban Artspace**, which offers a full calendar of visual and performing arts.

Discover why **Gahanna** is known as the Herb Capital of Ohio. Visit the Ohio Herb Education Center for their appropriately named class, "Thyme for fun in the kitchen." You'll discover fun facts about herbs and how to enhance recipes by adding herbal blends. Or, opt to use herbs to create your own bath scrubs and lotions.



*Get creative with herbs in Gahanna*

Taste your way around the historic **North Market** on a guided tour where you'll meet local merchants and farmers, and sample their fabulous foods. Learn the fascinating history of Columbus' 130-plus year-old public market, home to dozens of independent merchants and farmers peddling the fresh, the local and the exotic.

Stop and smell the roses, lemongrass, cake batter and more than 120 other scents at **The Candle Lab** in Olde Worthington. After choosing two or three of your favorite aromas, create a custom fragrance blend and pour a natural soy candle. It only needs an hour to firm — more than enough time to pick out your favorite bottle at neighboring **House Wine**. Sample a variety of labels from House Wine's collection to find your own "house wine."

## CONTACT US

For more information about this itinerary and other group-friendly destinations, contact Alissa Preston, Experience Columbus Tourism Sales Manager, at 800-354-2657,

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