Welcome to the Water Summit, and the Greater Cincinnati area. Maybe you’ve never been to this area. Maybe you were surprised to find out that the Cincinnati Airport is in Kentucky, not Ohio. There are a lot of great things to see and eat in the area, and the PSA Team has prepared this primer to help you explore during your free time around the Water Summit.

Orient Yourself

Restaurant locations
- Main Strasse Restaurants
- Historic Covington Restaurants
- Newport on the Levee Restaurants
- Over the Rhine Restaurants

Hotel and Airport
- Radisson Hotel Cincinnati Riverfront
- CVG Cincinnati Airport

Landmarks and Cultural Attractions
- Baseball park
- Football stadium
- Fountain Square
- Cincinnati Zoo
- USEPA ORD Lab
- University of Cincinnati
Getting Around

You may not need to rent a car during your stay. Taxi service from the airport to the hotel should cost about $32 each way and, like most airports, rideshare services like Uber and Lyft are readily available.

Cincinnati does not feature a subway or simple-to-use bus service. One of the reasons we selected the Radisson for the Water Summit was service from a public transportation option called the Southbank Shuttle. You can catch the shuttle at a nearby stop (a recommended stop is at the end of Main Strasse Village, point E). One-way fare is one dollar. Keep in mind that the shuttle only accepts cash.

During winter hours, the Southbank Shuttle runs Mon-Thurs from 6am to 7pm on a 15-minute schedule. Because of the restricted evening hours of the winter schedule, you may end up taking the Shuttle to your dinner or other destination, and hailing a taxi or ride share to return. Many of the recommended restaurants are within walking distance if the weather is nice enough.

A. Medical Arts, Belleview
B. Newport on the Levee
C. Fountain Square, Downtown Cincinnati
D. Covington Convention Center
E. 5th at Philadelphia

Main Strasse Village is centered around 6th and Main Streets in Covington.

The Radisson Hotel is on 5th one block west of Philadelphia in Covington.
Feed Yourself

The following are a few stand-out restaurants that you may be interested in visiting, organized according to neighborhood.

Main Strasse Village. Get there by crossing 5th Street in front of the hotel and walking across the concrete pedestrian bridge to Goebel Park. Walk diagonally across the gazebo (the clock tower will be to your right) to Philadelphia Street and 6th Street (grass median). Go two blocks up 6th Street to Main Street (you guessed it ... Main Strasse in German).

- Goodfellas Pizzeria. Don’t let the downstairs diner environment fool you, there is a full bar and comfy seating area upstairs. A lovely selection of beverages, friendly staff, and delicious pizza.
- Dee Felice. Cajun eatery with a great atmosphere and savory menu. This restaurant has been a decades-long anchor restaurant in the neighborhood for a reason.
- Lisse Steakhuis. A great option if you are looking for a white tablecloth and crystal fine dining experience.
- Old Kentucky Bourbon Bar. Say no more. For those of us who enjoy a nightcap after dinner. Remember that you are in the home state of bourbon.

Old Covington. Our PSA staff restaurant critic only knows these restaurants from a drive-by.

- The Gruff. Great reputation as a gastropub with generally local-sourced kitchen.
- Molly Malone’s Irish Pub and Restaurant. The name says it all. This might be a good option if you have a larger group, since the Main Strasse restaurants generally have more limited seating.

Newport on the Levee and Riverboat Row. These tend to be theme restaurants and national chains with good food and spacious interiors.

- Hofbräuhaus Newport. Reportedly the first licensed Hofbräuhaus in the US. German themed in keeping with Cincinnati’s heritage as a settling point for German immigrants. Get your schnitzel, spaetzle, and dunkel on, and be ready to sing along to Roll Out the Barrel with the house accordionist while dining family-style at wood-plank tables.
- BRIOS Tuscan Grille. A strong option if you’re dining with a larger group
- Strong’s Brick Oven Pizzeria.
- Mitchell’s Fish Market is part of an upscale chain of fish and steak restaurants based in Columbus, Ohio. Their menus feature generous, savory plates of home style food.
- Chart House and Joe’s Crab Shack. Used to be not such a great idea to order seafood in an interior-region restaurant, but things have changed. Chart House if you still have your tie on, Crab Shack if you’re more in your pajamas.

Over the Rhine. This is a trendy, revitalizing neighborhood on the Cincinnati side of the river. The area is built around the historic Findlay Market, and many up-and-coming microbreweries throw their first batches of wort here.

- The Eagle. Southern-inspired brew pub in the thick of other Over-the-Rhine offerings.
- Taft’s Ale House. Brewpub near Washington Park that sounds delicious.
• Rhinegeist Brewery and Sartre Restaurant. A little further North from the other restaurants, Rheingeist has quickly built a reputation for fantastic brews. Sartre restaurant next door advertises a diverse, upscale menu in the $25-a-plate range.

Other Cincinnati Classics.

• Skyline Chili. If you’ve never had Greek-style chili, you should stop by a Skyline chili location. This restaurant chain started in Cincinnati and made Greek chili a regional favorite. If spaghetti’s not your thing then think about a tray of cheese coney dogs.
  o Three way. Spaghetti, chili, and cheese.
  o Four way. Add kidney beans
  o Five way. Add diced onions
• Montgomery Inn Barbeque. Home of some of the best ribs north of the Mason Dixon (you can decide for yourself whether they should even be compared to Southern ribs). The closest location is the Boathouse, across the river from Newport, just East of the I-471 bridge on Pete Rose Way.
• Moerlein Lager House. In the shadow of the Baseball Stadium, hotel staff raved about this as a destination. Christian Moerlein is one of the pre-prohibition brews from Cincinnati and in the 1980s and 90s, before hops took over, one of the only flavorful beers you could get in Cincinnati.
• Party Source. This isn’t food for some, but it is one of the largest selections of beer, wine, and liquor you will ever encounter. New Riff Distilling recently started in an adjoining property. Stop by Party Source for hard-to-find selections.

Entertain Yourself

If you have time before or after the Water Summit, or have a travel companion who isn’t part of the Summit, here are some options. View a tour guide listing on the internet, or consider the below.

• Kentucky Bourbon Trail. You are just about an hour away from Bourbon County, Kentucky, and a day trip to that region of the State might be just the ticket for enjoying your extra day.
• Newport Aquarium. Compact, very high quality aquarium at Newport-on-the-Levee. This is well worth a half-day or your time.
• National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Tucked between the two stadiums on the Ohio side of the river, the Freedom Center is a reminder of when the Ohio River was a border between North and South and the underground railroad system that helped slaves to freedom. We haven’t been yet, but it’s on the list
• Fountain Square. This is the iconic center of Cincinnati. There is a spacious (and affordable) parking garage under the Square; this is the center point for your exploration of downtown Cincinnati. Cincinnati is more of a 1920s city than a 1980s city so expect to see marble accents, frescoes, gilded elevators, and grand entryways rather than a more typical plate-glass-and-stainless-steel U.S. urban center. If you take the time to poke around you’ll see some really nice architecture. City Hall, Music Hall, Carew Tower, various historic churches, and (a little further out) the Museum Center at Union Terminal (closed for revitalization) are some of the buildings to look for.