

Travelers Guide to

Great Midwest Rail Circle Tour

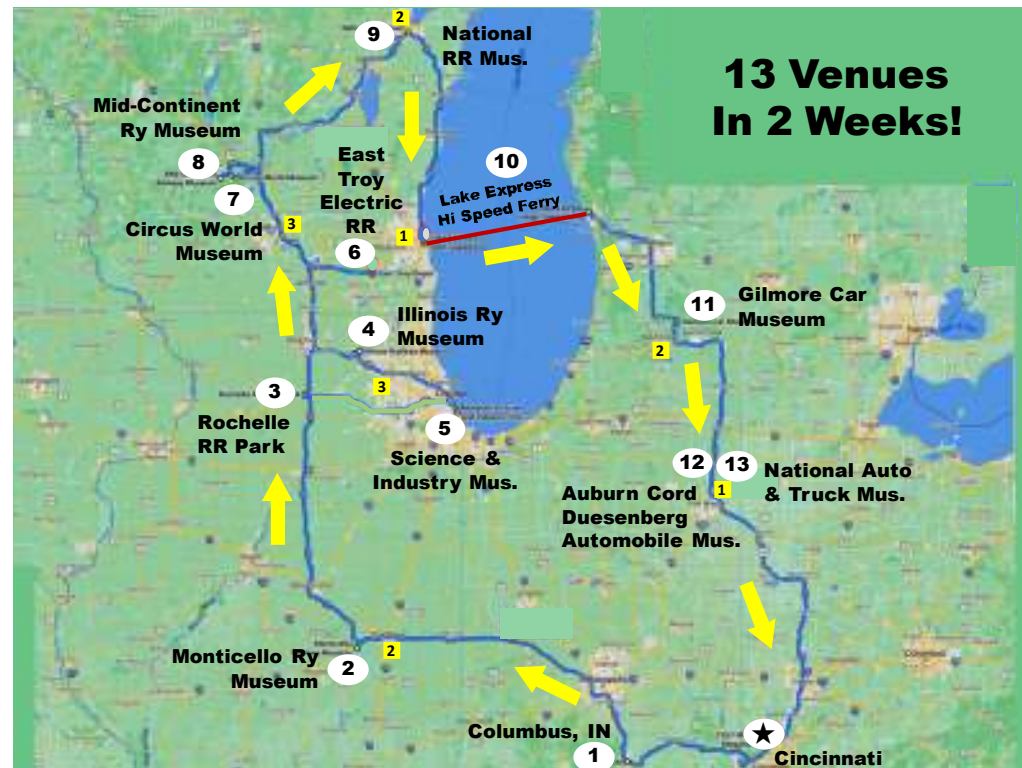
By John Burchnall

Great Midwest Rail Circle Tour

- Perfect post-pandemic adventure
- Always wanted to visit these venues
- Relatively small distances between venues enabled relaxing pace
- 13 venues in 2 weeks – only 1 per day
- Multiple nights at each hotel, except one

Great Midwest Rail Circle Venues

- Monticello Railway Mus. (IL)
- Illinois Railway Museum (Union, IL)
- Rochelle Rail Park (IL)
- Chicago Science & Industry Museum (IL)
- East Troy Electric Railway (WI)
- Circus World Museum (Baraboo, WI)
- Mid-Continent Rwy Mus. (Baraboo, WI)
- National Railroad Museum (Green Bay)
- Gilmore Car Museum (MI)
- Auburn/Cord/Duesenberg Museum + Natl. Car & Truck Museum (both Auburn, IN)
- Hobby Shops + General Attractions



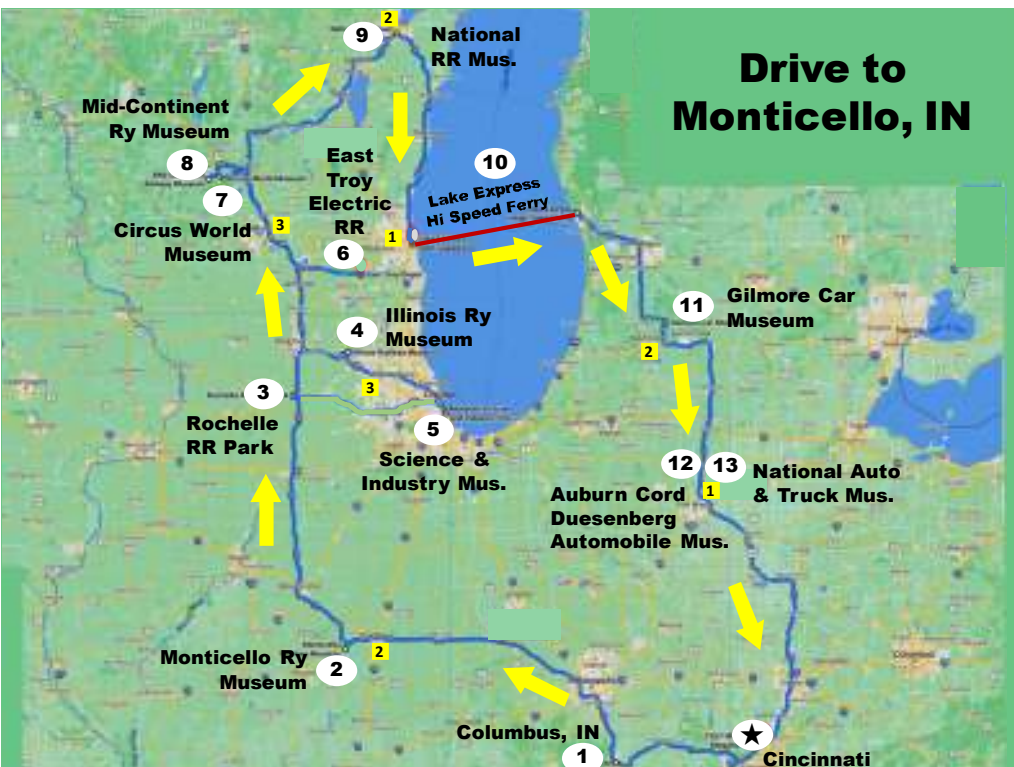
Great Midwest Rail Circle Tour

July 2021 Midwest Museums - Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana
 July 2 through 15 (14 Days)
 Train, Circus, Science & Car Museums + Lambeau Field + Ferry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 June	28	29	30	1 July	2	3
11-13 Venues in 2 Weeks!						
4 noon check-out ↓ Drive to Schaumburg, IL (See Rochelle RR Pk) 3p, 2 Qn, (847) 524-0455 Hilton Gd Inn Schaumbg 1191 Woodfield Rd Schaumburg, IL 60173	5 ↓ Illinois Ry Museum 10a-5p; several rides 7000 Olson Rd Union, IL 60180 (815) 923-4391 ↓ Hilton Gd Inn Schaumbg	6 ↓ 11:30 AM admission Chicago Mus. Sci & Ind 5700 S. Lake Shore Dr Chicago, IL 60637 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM (773) 684-1414 ↓ Hilton Gd Inn Schaumbg	7 noon check-out ↓ Drive to Madison, WI (See Rochelle RR Pk) 3p, 2 Qn, (608) 244-4703 Dbletree Madison East 4402 E Washgtn Av Madison, WI 53704	8 ↓ Circus World 550 Water St Baraboo, WI 53913 9 am - 4 pm ↓ Dbletree Madison East	9 ↓ East Troy Elec. RR 10am-4pm?, noon Ride 2002 Church St East Troy, WI 53120 (262) 642-3263 ↓ Dbletree Madison East	10 11 am check-out ↓ Mid-Continent Ry Mus. E 8948 Mus. Rd N. Freedom, WI 53951 (608) 522-4261 9:30-5, 11 AM Train 3p, 2 Qn, (920) 437-5900 Hamp.Inn G.Bay Downtn 201 Main St Green Bay, WI 54301
11 ↓ National RR Museum 2285 S. Broadway Green Bay, WI 54304 (920) 437-7623 11a-4p, noon ride ↓ Hamp.Inn G.Bay Downtn	12 11 am check-out ↓ Lambeau Fld 11:45 Tour 1265 Lombardi Ave Green Bay, WI 54304 9a-6p, (902) 569-7512 ↓ Drive to Milw. 2 Qn, (414) 771-2300 Renaissance Milw. West 2300 N. Mayfair Rd Wauwatosa, WI 53226	13 11 am check-out arr. noon, 12:30-4 trip Lake Express Ferry 2330 S Lincoln Mem Dr Milw., WI 53207 1918 Lake Shore Dr Muskegon, MI 49441 3p, 2 Qn, (269) 382-4000 Hilton Gd Inn Kalamazoo 303 N. Rose St Kalamazoo, MI 49007	14 ↓ Gilmore Car Museum 6865 W. Hickory Rd Hickory Crns, MI 49060 9a - 6p (269) 671-5089 ↓ Hilton Gd Inn Kalamazoo	15 11 am check-out ↓ Drive Home (Visit Ford V-8 Mus. Ft. Wayne, IN)	16	17 8-10 setup (Cincinnati Summer Model Train Sale 10 am - 4 pm Distribute Fall Show Signs and Passes)

Travelers Tips and Secrets

- Use internet searches and Kalmbach's annual *Tourist Trains Guidebook*
- Many venues are seasonal and/or only open certain days of the week
- Cab rides are sometimes available, some only if you ask (not advertised)
- Plan all the main venues and hotels first, then fill in with other attractions
- Use internet to find local hobby stores



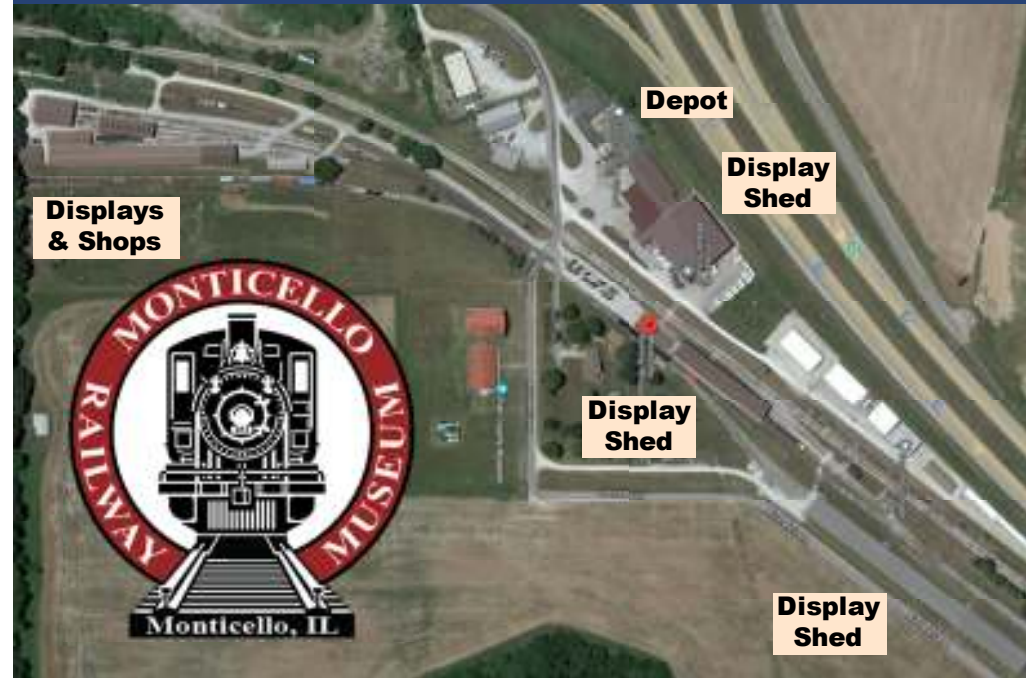
Columbus, Indiana



Zaharakos
Since 1900[®]
Ice Cream Parlor and Museum



2 Monticello Railway Museum



Monticello Railway Museum



Monticello Railway Museum



Monticello Railway Museum



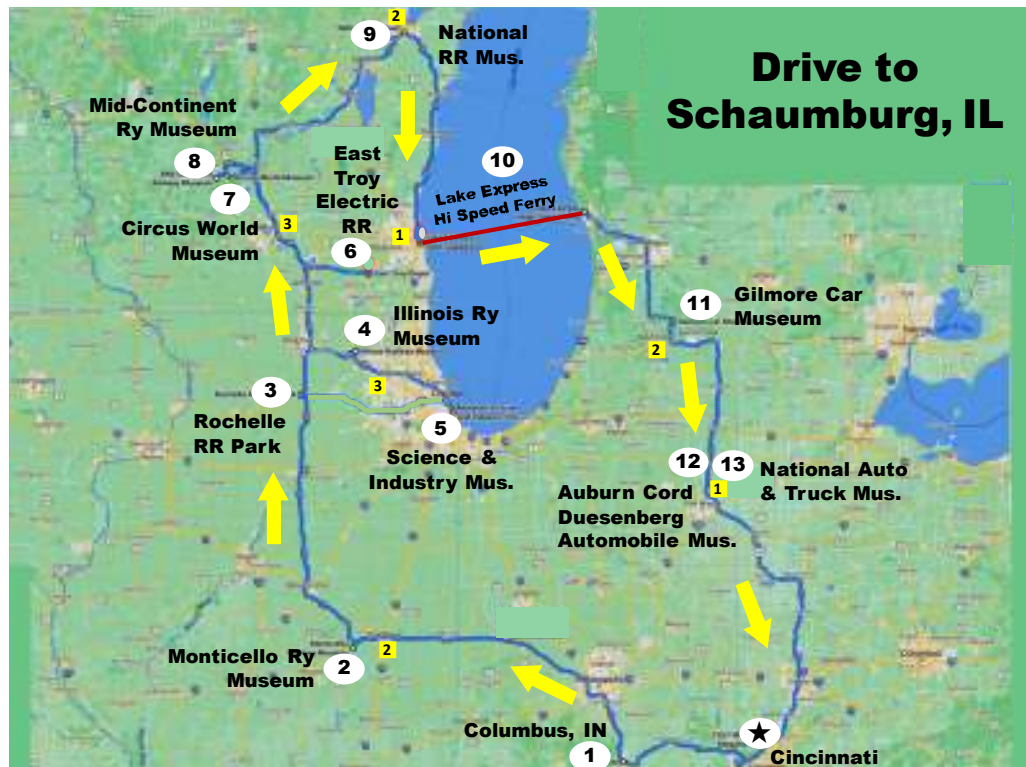
Monticello Railway Museum



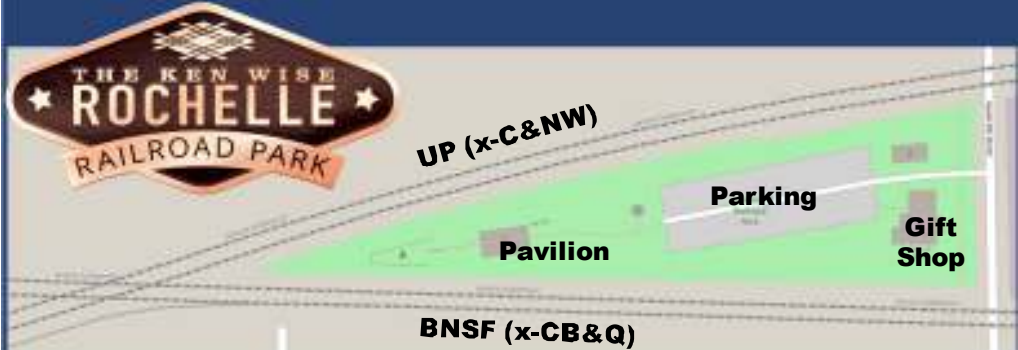
Monticello Railway Museum



Monticello Railway Museum



3 Rochelle Railroad Park



Rochelle Railroad Park



Rochelle Railroad Park



Rochelle Railroad Park



Rochelle Railroad Park



4

Illinois Railway Museum



Illinois Railway Museum



Illinois Railway Museum



Illinois Railway Museum



Illinois Railway Museum



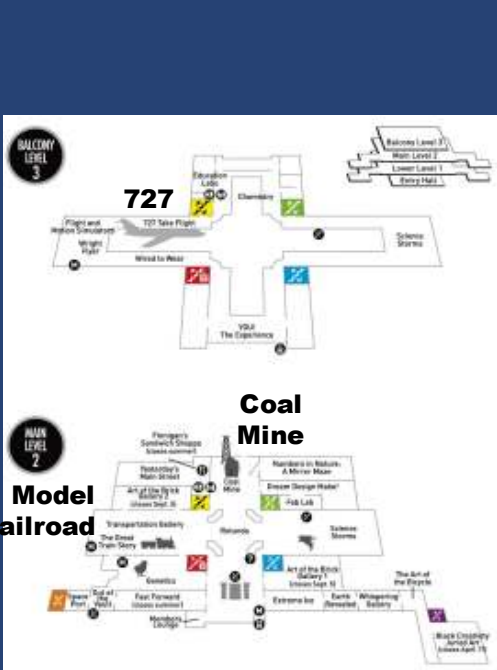
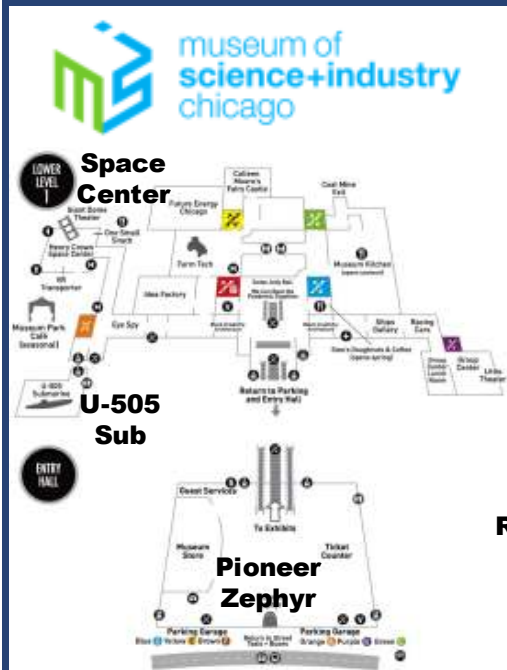
Illinois Railway Museum



Illinois Railway Museum



5 Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



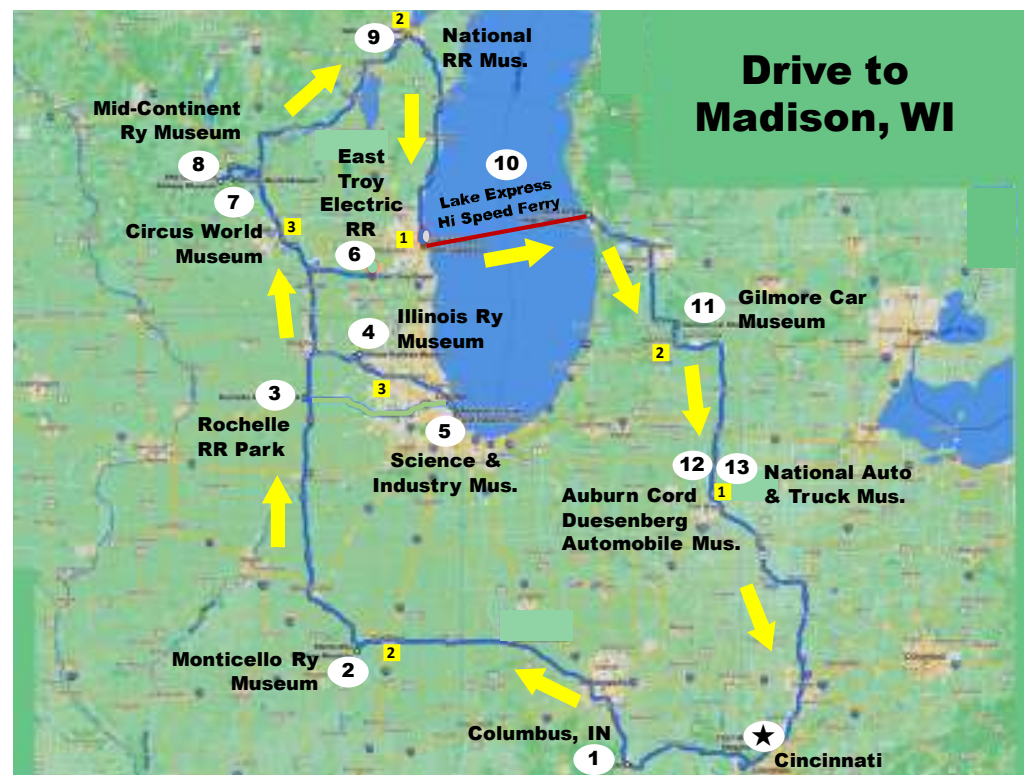
Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Chicago Science & Industry Mus.



Drive to
Madison, WI

6 East Troy Electric Railway Mus.



East Troy Electric Railway Mus.



East Troy Electric Railway Mus.



East Troy Electric Railway Mus.



East Troy Electric Railway Mus.



7

Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



Circus World Museum



8 Mid-Continent Railway Museum



Mid-Continent Railway Museum



Mid-Continent Railway Museum



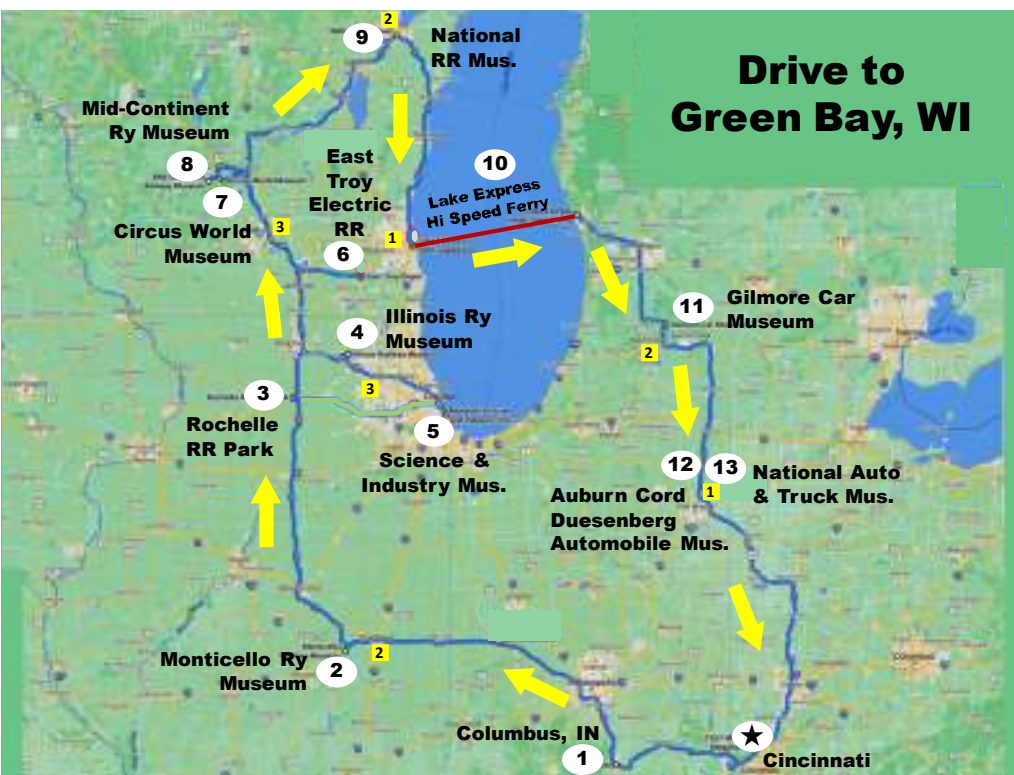
Mid-Continent Railway Museum



Mid-Continent Railway Museum



Drive to Green Bay, WI



9 National Railroad Museum



Bonus Tour Lambeau Field, Home of the Green Bay Packers

National Railroad Museum



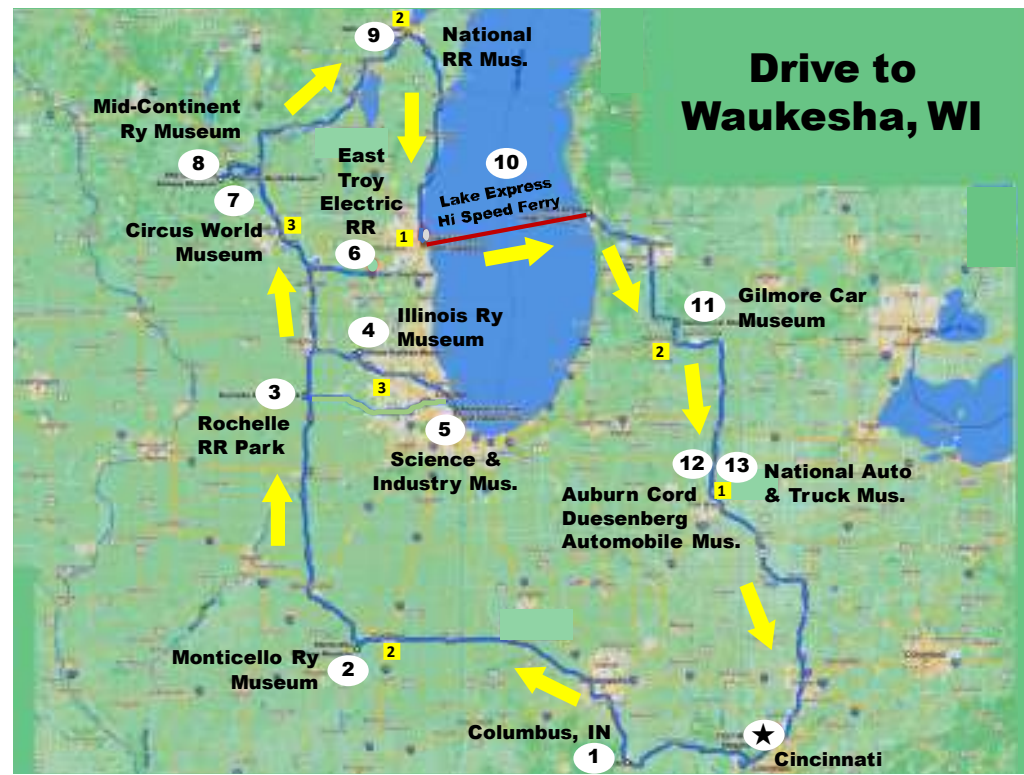
National Railroad Museum



National Railroad Museum



9+ GB Packers Lambeau Field

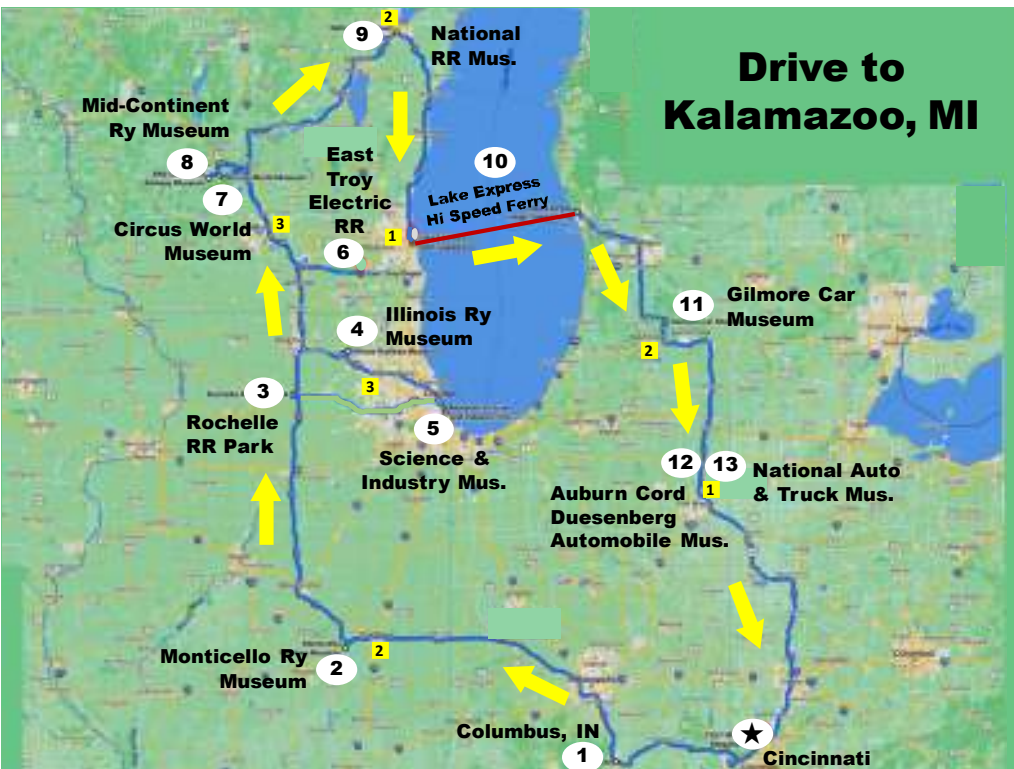


10 Lake Express High Speed Ferry

LAKE EXPRESS
Between Milwaukee and Muskegon



Lake Express High Speed Ferry



11 Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Museum

TRAIN DEPOT & TOWER



THIS TRAIN SWITCH TOWER served the Kalamazoo & South Haven Railroad (later New York Central) for nearly 100 years before it was moved to 1964 from just West of Kalamazoo's downtown area, near to the Museum campus and restored.



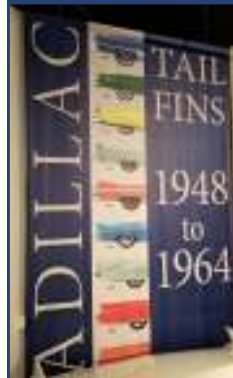
Gilmore Car Museum



MODEL A BUILDING



Gilmore Car Museum



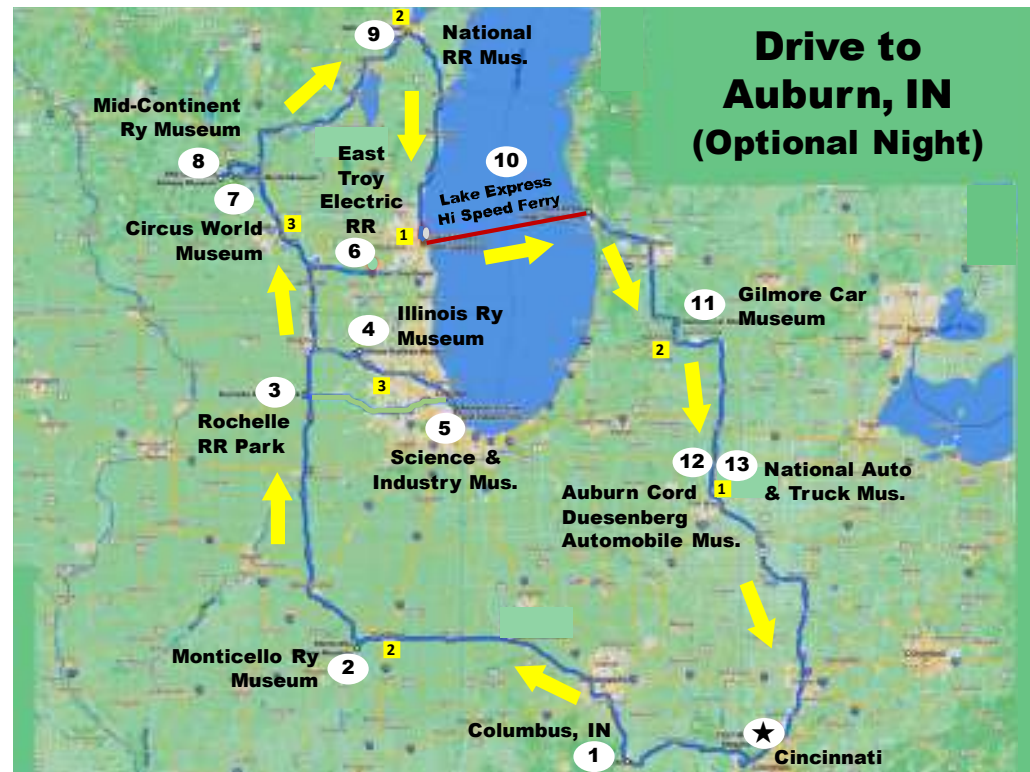
Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Museum



Gilmore Car Mus.



Drive to Auburn, IN (Optional Night)

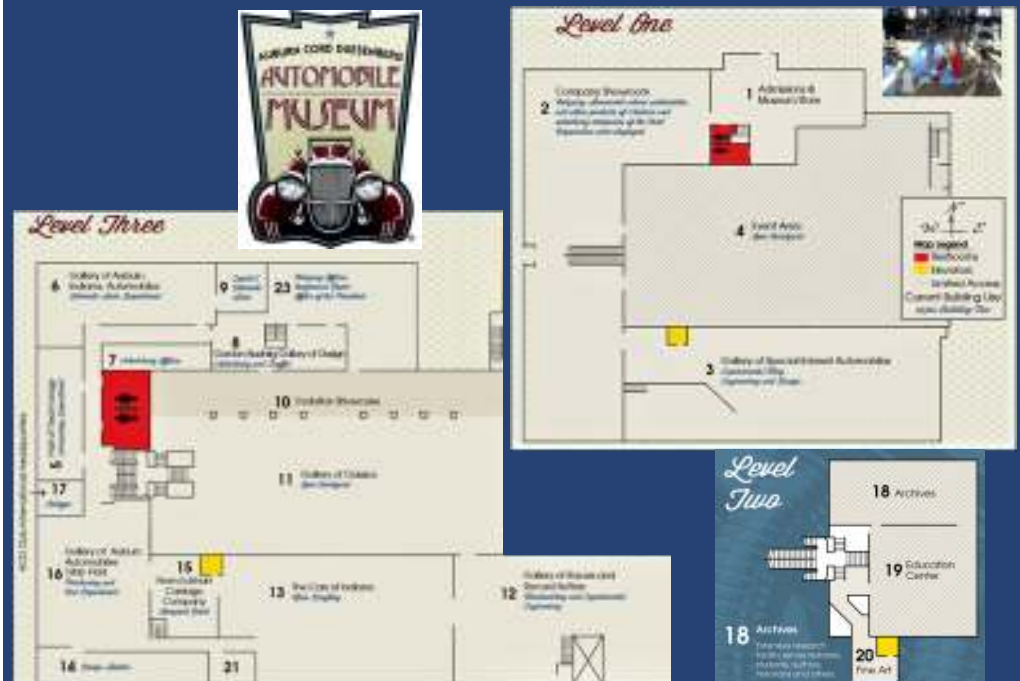
Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum + National Car & Truck Museum

12

13



12 Auburn Cord Duesenberg Mus.



Auburn Cord Duesenberg Mus.



Auburn Cord Duesenberg Mus.



13 National Car & Truck Museum



Main Level

Models & Toys

Pedal Cars

Filling Station Items

Family Cars

Auburn Dealership

American Trucks

Lower Level

Futurliner

Hudsons

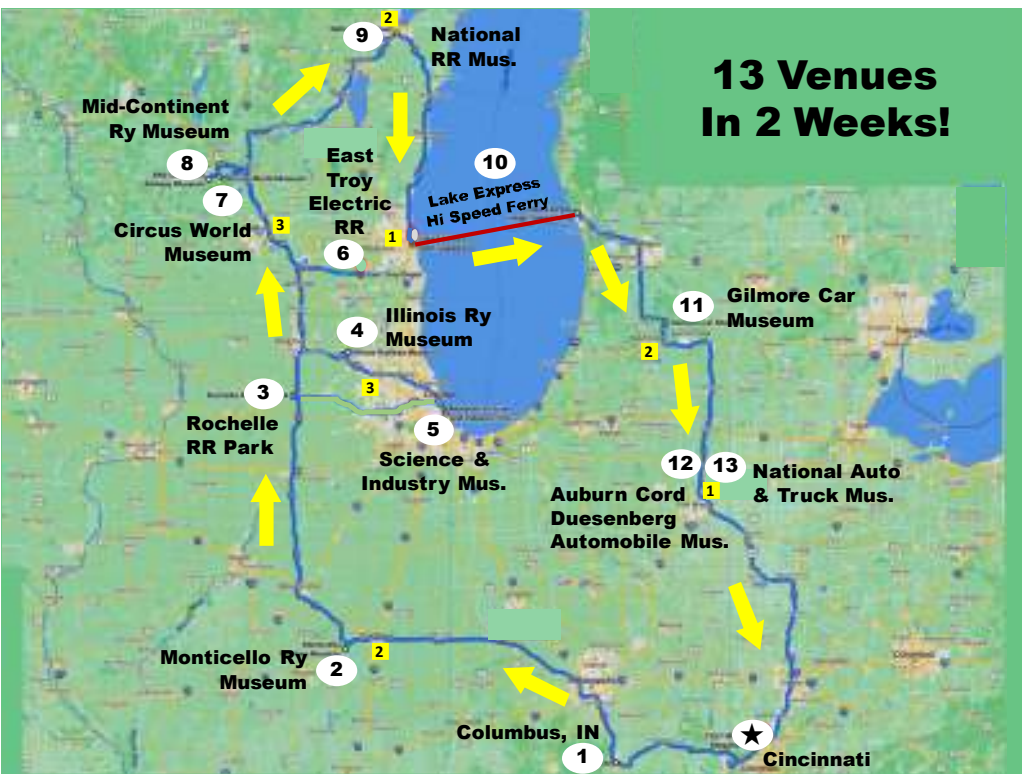
National Car & Truck Museum



National Car & Truck Museum



National Car & Truck Museum



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Other Rail Circle Tours?

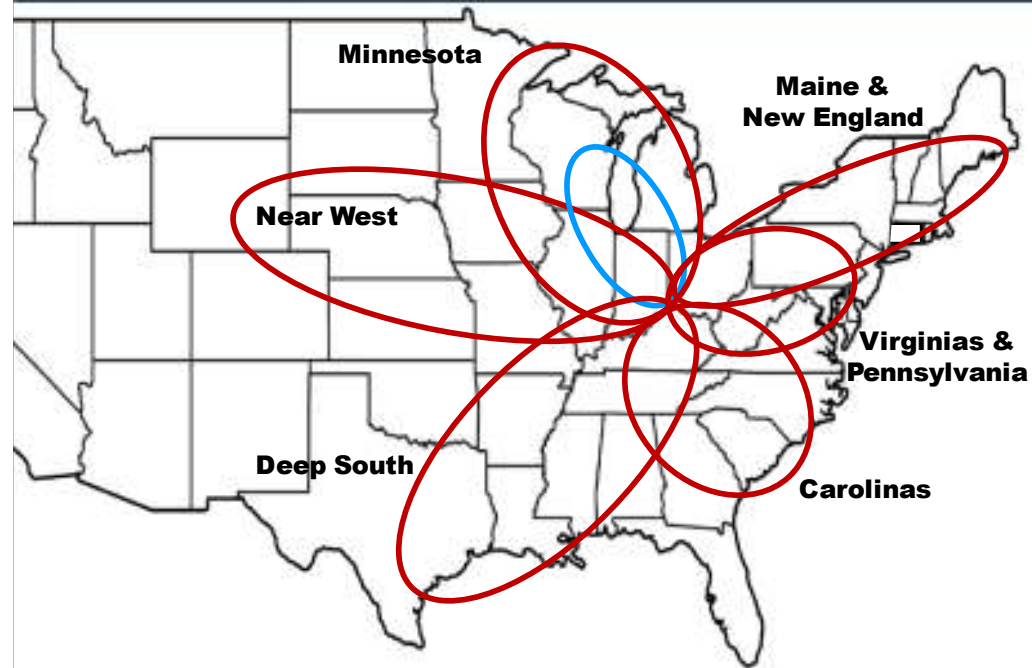
What other circle tour opportunities exist?

Which compass directions from Cincinnati?

What attractions exist? Long & short trips?



Other Rail Circle Tour Ideas



Other Rail Circle Tour Ideas

- **Minnesota** – Dearborn, Huckleberry, Durand, Mackinac Island, Sault St. Marie, Copper Mines, Duluth, Miss. River, Twin Cities, Boone Scenic RR, Lincoln Library
- **Near West** – Field of Dreams, Wheels of Time, Lincoln Lib., Mt. Rushmore, Black Hills Central, Badlands, Cheyenne, Denver, UP Tower/Mus, Abilene, Boone Scenic RR
- **Maine & New England** – PA Lumber Mus, Altoona, Strasburg, East Broad Top RR, Steamtown NP, Mt. Washington Cog Ry, Maine 2-Footers, L.L. Bean, Acadia NP

Other Rail Circle Tour Ideas

- **Virginias & Pennsylvania** – Cass, Roanoke, C&O Hist. Center, Altoona, East Broad Top, Strasburg, Steamtown NP, W. MD Scenic, Reading Blue Mt. & Northern, DuPont Mills
- **Carolinas** – Beckley, Bluefield, Roanoke, Spencer NC, Tweetsie RR, Tennessee RR Museum, Nashville, Wilmington, Savannah, Biltmore Mansion, Great Smokey Mts. RR
- **Deep South** – KY Ry Museum, Nashville, Branson, Memphis, Arkansas RR Museum, Museum of American RR, T&P Ry Museum, Galveston Museum, N. Orleans Streetcars

Enjoy Your Trips!



Questions?

