



## THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Please remember:

- To practice safe social distancing while on trails.
- Parks are open from 6am-10pm.
- Most restrooms and water fountains in Cincinnati Parks are closed during the winter months so plan accordingly.
- Please check the weekly attached trail map for trail closure information provided by the Cincinnati Park Board.
- Each recommended hike is intended to last approximately one hour. Included are accessibility options and additional trails to extend your hike should you wish.
- Hike at your own risk. Winter hiking, while beautiful, can present hazardous conditions like ice and slippery surfaces. Be careful and check the weather before you go.
- Dress accordingly and bring a water bottle. We recommend an all-weather jacket, insulated hiking boots or gym shoes with treads, warm socks, hats and gloves.
- Dogs must be leashed.
- Don't miss the weekly "SELFIE CHALLENGE" noted in each hike. Each tagged @cincyparksfoundation post on social media enters you into a weekly chance of winning a "Parks Supporter" cabin mug AND the grand prize - an ULTIMATE winter survival kit. One selfie challenge winner will be announced weekly. One grand prize winner will be announced on January 25th. All winners are randomly chosen.

## Week #4: Get Inspired at Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park!

The Theodore M. Berry International Friendship Park, completed in 2003 along the Ohio River just east of downtown, is a sumptuous and award-winning display of sculpture and flora representing five continents, and also features a riverside bike trail and walking paths.

Named for Cincinnati's first African American mayor, it serves as a lasting tribute to world unity and global understanding. The grand design of the park drew its inspiration in part from a child's friendship bracelet. Two intertwining walkways guide park visitors through gardens of the continents in a perpetual celebration of international peace and friendship.

\*Source: [cincinnatiiparks.com](http://cincinnatiiparks.com)

**Hiking Level – Easy; approximately 30 min; dogs are welcome on a leash; paved accessible path**

*Park in the lot at the west entrance of TM Berry International Friendship Park, 1135 Riverside Drive, 45202*

- 1. Pinwheel Sign** – Our walk begins at the brightly-colored entrance of the park, where its name appears in eight languages.
- 2. TM Berry Plaza** – Decorative signs on columns in the plaza commemorate Berry's life as a humanitarian and activist committed to building a world where peace, freedom and equality are accessible to all.
- 3. Friendship Bracelet Pathways** – From Berry Plaza, two intertwining walkways – the Path of Man and the Path of Nature, lead eastward, linking the gardens of the continents into a "friendship bracelet". Observe the artful imprints set into each pathway, and the granite circles inscribed with the names of each continent embedded where the paths cross. The walkways symbolize the relationship between man and nature, and the relationships between cultures.
- 4. Castle of Air** – On the right, take the orange Path of Nature through the Garden of Europe to this impressive, mirrored sculpture designed by architect Peter Haimel. The sculpture is a gift from Cincinnati's German sister city of Munich and reflects people and nature, causing us to reflect on our place in the world and our relationship to nature.

**SELFIE CHALLENGE SPOT (details in the "Things to Know" flier)**

5. **Story Circle** – Continue on the path through the Garden of Africa until you find small mounds that radiate from a “story stone” where storytellers can share tales in the honored tradition of Native American and African cultures.
6. **Hands of the Land** – Cross through the Garden of Australia to the center of the park where this impressive earth sculpture is a tribute to the prehistoric North American mound builders of the Ohio Valley. The hands reflect the spirit of Friendship Park and are featured in the park’s logo.
7. **Plaza of the Sun** – Continue on the path and pass the contemporary Friendship Pavilion Building to this scenic overlook that radiates the sun with its red concrete and brick “sunbeams”. The massive sundial sculpture in the center of the plaza is carved from 150-year-old English Oak and its pieces are precisely arranged to align with the rising and setting sun on the winter and summer solstice, and the spring and fall equinox. Standing in its center, can you tell what time it is?
8. **The Crystalline Tower** – Continue on the Path of Nature to explore the Gardens of Asia and the Americas. At the east end of the park stands a 90’ tall three-sided tower, clad in sheets of titanium, mica panels and steel mesh. Designed collaboratively by Ohio artist Susan Ewing and Czech artist Vratislav Novak, the tower is topped by a rotating north star, in recognition of the importance of the star to slaves navigating their way across the Ohio River to freedom. Notice how the sculpture interacts with nature as the panels move in the wind and reflect sunlight.

**EXTEND YOUR HIKE:** Follow the blue Path of Man westward to return to the parking lot where you can rent a Cincinnati Red Bike. Continue west to explore the paved pathways of Cincinnati’s Riverfront Parks – Sawyer Point, Yeatman’s Cove, and Smale Riverfront Park.





# A PARK TOUR FROM West to East

## PARK FEATURES

- Friendship Bracelet Paths: Path of Man & Path of Nature
- Theodore M. Berry Plaza
- Flag Court
- Castle of Air
- Story Circle
- Hands of the Land
- Gaudi Bench
- Friendship Pavilion Building
- Clay, Color and Fire Sculpture
- Plaza of the Sun
- The Crystalline Tower
- Seven Vessels Ascending/Descending
- Gardens of the Continents

Park Entrance

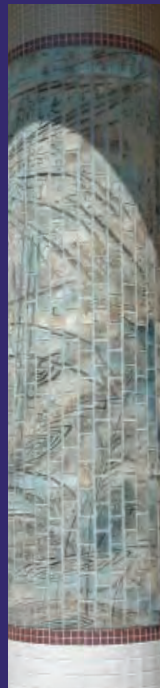
THEODORE M. BERRY  
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP PARK



### Castle of Air

Artist, Architect: Peter Haimerl

This pavilion, a contemporary interpretation of a 17th-century European hunting lodge, is a gift from our German sister city of Munich. Designed by German architect Peter Haimerl, the inspiration came from Munich's Pagodenburg Castle, which has paintings of nature on its walls. With its mirrored surface reflecting its surroundings, The Castle of Air achieves this same effect as it seems to disappear into the greenery of the park. Fabricated by an Austrian company that builds fuel tanks for the European space program, and assembled on site in the Garden of Europe, the pavilion reflects people and nature. It causes us to reflect on our place in the world and our relationship to nature, while celebrating the friendship between the sister cities of Cincinnati and Munich.



### Clay, Color and Fire

A collaborative effort of The Cincinnati Park Board, the School of Design, Art, Architecture and Planning at UC, and the Sister Cities Association of Greater Cincinnati.

Visiting artists:

Steven Lin of Taipei-Hsien, Taiwan  
Philippe Pasqualini of Nancy, France  
Vamir Shapovalov of Kharkiv, Ukraine  
Ikuhiko Shibata of Gifu, Japan  
Eva Sperner-Zernickel of Munich, Germany  
Marjorie Wallace of Harare, Zimbabwe  
He Zhenhai of Luizhou, China

As the park's first collaboration of international artists, this mosaic masterpiece reflects the team effort of seven artists from Cincinnati's sister cities who worked together under the direction of local artist Jan Brown Checco. United by their love of clay, each artist communicated their own unique visions and cultural expressions, while sharing their mosaic techniques. In 26 days in workshops in Cincinnati and working with apprentices, the group created 15,000 ceramic mosaic tiles, which were later applied to the columns and hearth of the Friendship Pavilion.

### Seven Vessels Ascending/Descending

Artist: David Nash

Carved from 150-year-old English Oak originally planted to provide wood for the British navy's fleet, this huge sundial sculpture by world-renowned Welsh artist David Nash sits in the center of Plaza of the Sun. Commissioned by the Park Board as a result of an international call to artists, the wooden "vessels" demonstrate the movement of the sun across the sky, across the seasons. The pieces are precisely arranged to align with the rising and setting sun on the winter and summer solstice, and the spring and fall equinox. The one vessel with no charring at its base is set at due south, and daily at high noon the sun shines a beam through the slot in the top of this piece.



### The Crystalline Tower

Artists: Susan Ewing, Vratislav Novak

At the east end of the park, stands a 90' tall three-sided tower. Clad in sheets of titanium, mica panels and steel mesh, the sculpture is meant to interact with nature. The titanium panels move in the wind and make sound. The thin sheets of mica reflect sunlight and appear to glow. Selected by international competition, this collaborative work was created by Ohio artist Susan Ewing and Czech artist Vratislav Novak. The tower is topped by a rotating north star, in recognition of the importance of the star to slaves navigating their way across the Ohio River to freedom. A spiral stair within the tower is reminiscent of strands of DNA and echoes the signature winding pathways within the park.

## Friendship Bracelet Pathways

From Berry Plaza, two intertwining walkways — the Path of Man and the Path of Nature, lead eastward, linking the gardens of the park into a 'friendship bracelet' with features along the way serving as charms on the bracelet. Reminiscent of DNA chains which we all share, and the bond between disparate people, the walkways symbolize the relationship between man and nature, and the relationships between cultures. Visitors walking the pathways can observe the artful imprints set into each. Embedded in the walkways where the paths cross at the entrance to each continental garden are granite circles inscribed with the names of each continent. There are also large bronze medallions inscribed with cultural icons indigenous to each of the continents.

### The Path of Man

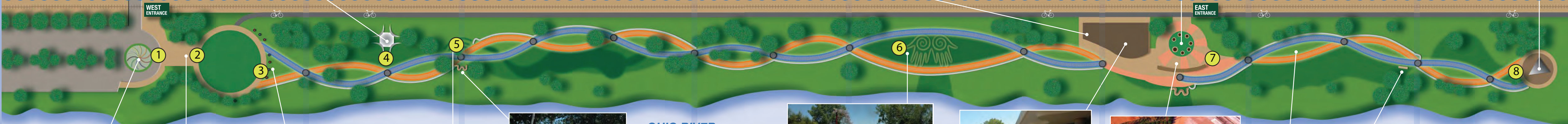
This path contains symbols from around the world set in its concrete. Icons found in the cultures of Asia (like the ying-yang symbol), of Africa, Europe, the Americas (native American turtle icon) and Australia (kangaroo) decorate the path.

### The Path of Nature

The nature path contains imprints of many of the plants and animals found in each of the continents represented by the various gardens of the continents. Look for imprints of Ginkgo leaves in the Garden of Asia, Sumac in the Garden of Africa, Linden in the Garden of Europe, Honeysuckle in the Garden of Australia and White Oak in the Garden of the Americas. Animal footprints include lion, coyote, crocodile, zebra, pig, black bear, deer, fox and sheep in their respective continental gardens.

### Bike Trail

A bike trail runs the length of the park and is planned to extend to the east as part of the Ohio River Bike Trail.



### Pinwheel Sign

The name of the park appears in eight languages.

### Theodore M. Berry Plaza

Decorative signs on columns in the plaza commemorate Berry's life as a humanitarian and activist committed to building a world where peace, freedom and equality are accessible to all.



### Flag Court

Flags of Cincinnati's Sister Cities fly at the east end of the plaza on a large circular lawn. Tiles around the circle identify four cities around the globe, which are due north, south, east and west of this point and indicate the distance to each.



### Story Circle

Within the Garden of Africa, small mounds radiate from a 'story stone' where storytellers can share tales in the honored tradition of Native American and African cultures.



### Gaudi Bench

This curving bench is a tribute to the Catalan architect Antonio Gaudi who practiced in the early 20th century in Barcelona. He created fanciful works of architecture during the Art Nouveau period including a long, curving, ceramic-covered bench in a Barcelona park.

## OHIO RIVER



### Hands of the Land

The Hands of the Land earth sculpture is at the center of the park and lives in the largest 'charm' created by the intertwining 'bracelet' of walkways. This earth sculpture is a tribute to the prehistoric North American mound builders of the Ohio Valley. The hands reflect the spirit of Friendship Park and are featured in the park's logo.



### Friendship Pavilion Building

Designed to honor the legacy of Cincinnati parks' historic stone buildings, while also reflecting contemporary design, this pavilion has a wall of glass facing the river and curving roof forms which relate to the park's curving walkways and gardens and the sweep of the Ohio River. The Friendship Pavilion is used for programs and may be rented for private functions. Call 352-4080 for information.



### Plaza of the Sun

Red concrete and radiating bands of brick "sunbeams" evoke the sun on this scenic overlook where the plaza affords open river views. The sculpture in the center of the plaza depicts man's relationship with the sun.

### Garden of Taiwan

This gift from our sister city of Taipei-Hsien is within the Garden of Asia and consists of azalea, plum trees and groundcover.



### Chinese Scholar Stone

A gift of friendship from our sister city of Luizhou, Guangxi Province, China, this unique stone symbolizes the park's theme of unity among people and our connection to the earth. Scholar Stones (also called Spirit Rocks or Viewing Stones) have been collected in China and in Japan and Korea for hundreds of years. Prized for their natural beauty and spiritual properties, such rocks, found around Luizhou, are formed naturally in fantastic shapes, sizes and colors, which 'resemble' animals, plants, human faces or landscapes. (Different people 'see' different images.) This stone named Sparrow Hawk got its name from its brachiopod fossils (reminiscent of sparrow hawks).

## Gardens of the Continents

The continental gardens run the length of the park, shaped in part by the walkways of the Paths of Man and Nature. Each garden reflects the character of its particular native region through its design and through the use of plant materials which are similar to or sympathetic to those found in each of the continents.

### Garden of Europe

Inspired by the formality of European gardens, the design demonstrates an orderly and symmetrical plan and includes a hedge and an arc of linden trees, all arranged around a central axis.

### Garden of Africa

Open meadows and sparse tree groupings mimic the savannahs of Africa.

### Garden of Australia

A boulder cluster and meadow are reminiscent of the Australian outback.

### Hands of the Land

### Plaza of the Sun

### Garden of Asia

Inspired by the principles of Asian garden design, there are clusters of large stones, bamboo-like cane and ginkgo trees. Within the garden are gifts from two sister cities. The Garden of Taiwan was donated by the sister city of Taipei-Hsien, and a natural stone formation from China, called a 'scholar stone,' was given by the city of Luizhou.

### Garden of the Americas

A diverse planting of evergreens, prairie plantings and trees found in more southern climates represents the varied landscapes of North, South and Central Americas.



# FRILUFTSLIV HIKING CHALLENGE

## T. M. Berry International Friendship Park Scavenger Hunt

Find the COLORS



Find something that begins with the letter:

F

R

I

E

N

D

Find the FLORA (plants):

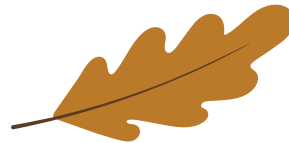
bamboo



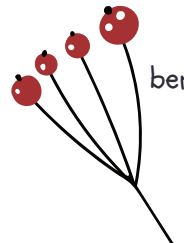
sleeping flowers



fallen leaves

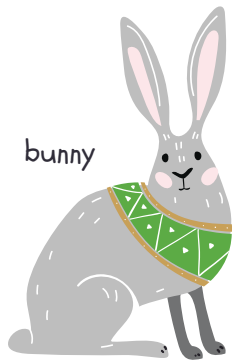


berries

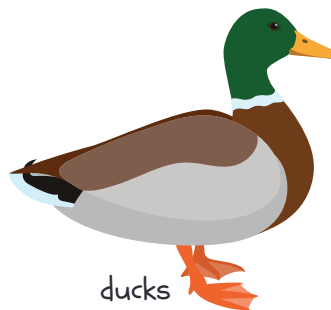


Find the FAUNA (animals):

bunny



ducks



cardinal



animal tracks