



DESTINATION DRIVE to the NATIONAL CORVETTE MUSEUM

<https://www.corvettemuseum.org/>

Although the Porsche Parade is obviously all about the Porsche brand, some of our PCA members may own or have owned a Chevrolet Corvette sometime in their life. Known as “America’s Sports Car”, the Corvette Museum is only a 2 ½ hour drive from French Lick to Bowling Green, KY and certainly worth a visit while attending the Porsche Parade.



The exterior of the National Corvette Museum is noted for its award-winning architectural design. The sweeping lines of the building were inspired by the car it honors. Departing totally from the traditional rectangular museum concept, the Corvette showcase is located on an attractively landscaped 60-acre campus. The most prominent exterior feature is a large circular car salon encased by a striking yellow conical roof. High above soars a red 12-story spire. Known as the “Skydome,” this section of the Museum has become a landmark for the Bowling Green area.

The interior of the 115,000-square-foot building uses curved walls, geometric design and full-scale diorama displays to tell the story of the Corvette’s past, present and future. More than 80 Corvettes from every era since 1953 are displayed, with each display changing periodically. While some are beautifully preserved production models, many are one-of-a-kind concept vehicles rarely if ever before seen by the public.



Upon entering the National Corvette Museum, visitors are greeted by a special car from the Museum’s collection displayed on a turntable in a glass-walled room. There is also a new Corvette that visitors may “try on for size,” sitting in the driver’s seat for a memorable snapshot. The front lobby gives way to the Corvette Gateway... an area that will test your knowledge of America’s Sports Car with a series of interactive quizzes. You’ll learn the back story on Corvette – what inspired Chevrolet to develop their own sports car, the influences on the car itself and materials used, how it got its name and more.

Next, it’s on to the 200-seat Chevrolet Theater to comfortably enjoy a brief introductory film on the big screen, which sets the stage for your Museum. This big-screen presentation gets the visitor’s “engine revved” and ready to enjoy an exciting tour.

Upon exiting the Gateway you'll enter Nostalgia Alley where a series of realistic scenes mirror the Corvette's early history. Vintage Corvettes line the street along with early advertisements and other memorabilia from the car's early years.

Next stop is the historic Route 66, often called "America's Main Street." This tribute to the highway is also a throw-back to the Route 66-television show that ran from 1960 until 1964. Currently on display in this area is a tribute to Corvette toys, including Corvette styled bumper car and pinball machine. This leads you to the KidZone, an area just for kids with hands on activities to they can design, build and test cars as well as service them. (Check currently availability due to COVID restrictions).

The final stop on Main Street is the Chevrolet Dealership Showroom featuring classic Corvettes that could pass for brand new. See Sting Rays, Sharks and other classics as a lifelike salesperson attempts to close a deal. Who doesn't remember visiting the showroom and dreaming of owning one of these beauties! Another full-scale diorama recreates a portion of the old Corvette assembly line in St. Louis, where the Corvette was produced from late 1953 until 1981.

Next, it's time to talk horsepower as visitors explore Corvette's racing history in the E. Pierce Marshall Memorial Performance Gallery. This circular room is 80 feet in diameter with its outer wall covered by a giant panoramic video screen, offering interactive content on the historic racers you'll see on display. Several well-known racers from the late 1950's to the ultra-high-performance racecars of today are arranged in the space, giving you a look at the progression of performance. The inner circle of the gallery boasts a more recent racer – a Corvette Racing C7.R in all its glory plus driver race suit and other related artifacts. Don't miss the interactive touch screens scattered throughout this gallery!



The largest display area is the famous Skydome portion of the Museum, 140 feet in diameter with a nearly 100-foot-high glass ceiling. Cars in this area, as in every part of the Museum, are constantly being changed and rotated. The Skydome features production vehicles on-loan from private owners as well as cars made famous by magazines and auto shows the world over. The Skydome was also the site of the infamous sinkhole on February 12, 2014. All eight of the Corvettes that fell victim are on display, some restored, and some just as they were when they

were recovered from the hole. View an outline on the floor of where the sinkhole was, as well as where the cave lies. You can even peer into the cave via a manhole in the floor!

The Exhibit Hall is the final display area in the Museum. This area houses an ever-changing display of specially themed exhibits which rotate every few months. The space is home not only to Corvettes, but also other makes and models, and even exhibits geared towards families and children. **Current and upcoming exhibits can be viewed [here](#).**

Accessible through the Exhibit Hall and Corvette Boulevard is the Corvette Store, a 4,600-square-foot retail store offering a wide variety of Corvette, Chevrolet and other automotive items. Shoppers will find unique apparel, collectibles and gift items in a friendly atmosphere. The Corvette Store is not your average museum gift shop!

The Corvette Store gives way to Corvette Boulevard and what is called the “Nursery.” Watch new Corvette purchases come to life in the Delivery Area, while owners take delivery of their new Corvette at the Museum. When an order for a new Corvette is placed, customers can opt to choose the R8C Option that designates the Corvette purchase as a “Museum Delivery.” Trained staff takes the new Corvette buyer on a tour of the Museum and an on-hands introduction to their new Corvette. Several deliveries are done each day, departing down Corvette Boulevard and Victory Lane, and give visitors the opportunity to see first-hand what Corvette excitement is all about.

This quick trip through the National Corvette Museum only begins to skim the highlights of this amazing tribute to America’s sports car. The excitement, color and adventure that are Corvette must be seen firsthand to be fully appreciated.

Location

Museum: 350 Corvette Drive
Plant: 600 Corvette Drive
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101
I-65 Exit 28
Telephone: [**270-781-7973**](tel:270-781-7973)
Toll-free: [**800-538-3883**](tel:800-538-3883)

Hours

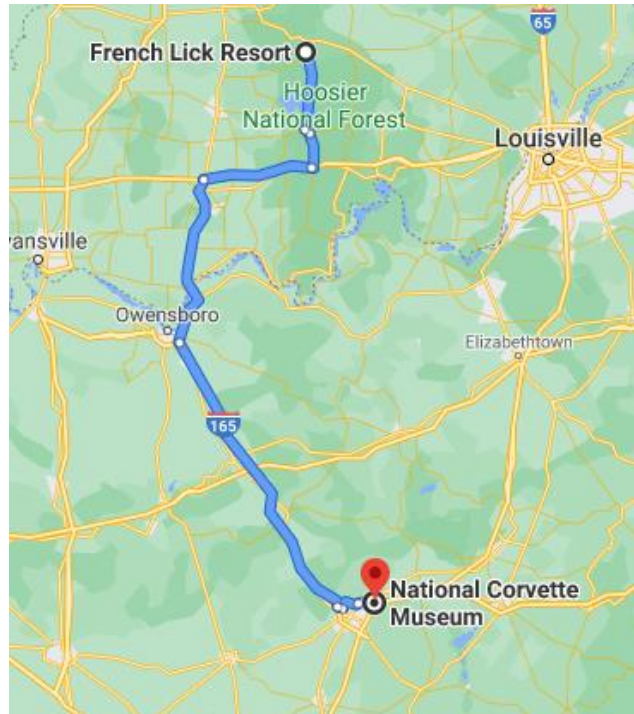
Open 8am-5pm CT, Seven Days a Week
The last admission tickets are sold by **4:30pm CT.**

Admission & Prices

\$15 Adults (13-61)
\$13 Seniors (62 +)
\$10 Youth (5-12)
4 and under Free

DESTINATION DRIVE to CORVETTE MUSEUM

1. Head south toward Indiana Ave (259 ft)
2. Turn left at the 1st cross street onto Indiana Ave (.1 mi)
3. Turn right onto IN-145 S (16.2 mi)
4. Continue onto IN-64 E (1.1 mi)
5. Continue onto IN-37 S (7.0 mi)
6. Slight right to merge onto I-64 W toward St Louis (.3 mi)
7. Merge onto I-64 W (21.9 mi)
8. Take exit 57A to merge onto US-231 S toward Dale/Owensboro (.3 mi)
9. Merge onto US-231 S - Entering Kentucky (35.4 mi)
10. Take exit 17 for I-165 S toward Bowling Green (.7 mi)
11. Continue onto I-165 (62.6 mi)
12. Take exit 7 for US-231 toward Bowling Green (0.2 mi)
13. Turn right onto US-231 S (1.1 mi)
14. Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto US-68 E (3.9 mi)
15. Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto Kentucky St (0.5 mi)
16. Continue onto Louisville Rd (1.9 mi)
17. Turn right onto Old Porter Pike (1.2 mi)
18. Turn right onto Porter Pike (0.2 mi)
19. Turn left onto Corvette Dr



National Corvette Museum
350 Corvette Dr.
Bowling Green, KY 42101

RETURN to FRENCH LICK RESORT

1. Get on I-165 from Old Porter Pike, Louisville Rd and US-68 W (9.3 mi)
2. Continue to Daviess County. Take exit 70A from I-165 (62.9 mi)
3. Get on I-64 E in Carter Township (35.5 mi)
4. Follow I-64 E to IN-37 N in Oil Township. Take exit 79 from I-64 E (21.7 mi)
5. Follow IN-37 N and IN-145 N to your destination in French Lick (24.7 mi)

French Lick Resort
8670 IN-56
French Lick, IN 47432

