



Event Ideas

Need some inspiration? Here are ideas for Ohio Open Doors events.

The list isn't exhaustive - the kinds of events you plan are limited only by your imagination!

- Behind the scenes tour of historic buildings or museums, showcasing areas not regularly open to the public.
- Historic theaters, "opera houses," and churches are other good candidates for behind-the-scenes tours
- If you are a museum or archive, offer tours of your collection storage areas, or special collections.
- Open houses in historic buildings that have been adaptively reused.* Show how spaces have been converted to new uses.
- Examples: the conversion of a historic hotel into modern apartments/condos or the conversion of a historic house into a museum gallery space
- Progressive dessert tastings in historic downtown buildings (make sure you follow laws and regulations regarding food service!)
- Host a "museum crawl" that showcases institution in your town's cultural district
- Tours of upper stories of historic commercial blocks
- County courthouse open house, or open houses or tours of other historic government buildings
- Walking tours of historic downtowns
- Open house at Ohio Century Farms
- Ohio Open Doors events can also be a version of events you already offer – but for Ohio Open Doors, add something special or offer an experience that's a visitor can't ordinarily experience
- "Recycle" Ohio Open Doors events that you've offered in years' past, and that are exclusive to Ohio Open Doors
- Review the Ohio Open Door events page and adapt ideas that other organizations offer elsewhere in the state



Event Requirements:

- It takes place between September 10-20, 2026.
- Is a minimum of two hours in duration – it can more, but it can't be less
- It is free and open to the public and abides by laws and local ordinances concerning safety and access.
- Events are unique to Ohio Open Doors.

"Adaptive reuse is the process of repurposing existing buildings for new uses, often transforming spaces like warehouses, factories, or office buildings into apartments, retail spaces, or cultural venues."

From: [Adaptive Reuse 101: Giving New Life to Old or Underperforming Properties Insights | LightBox](#)