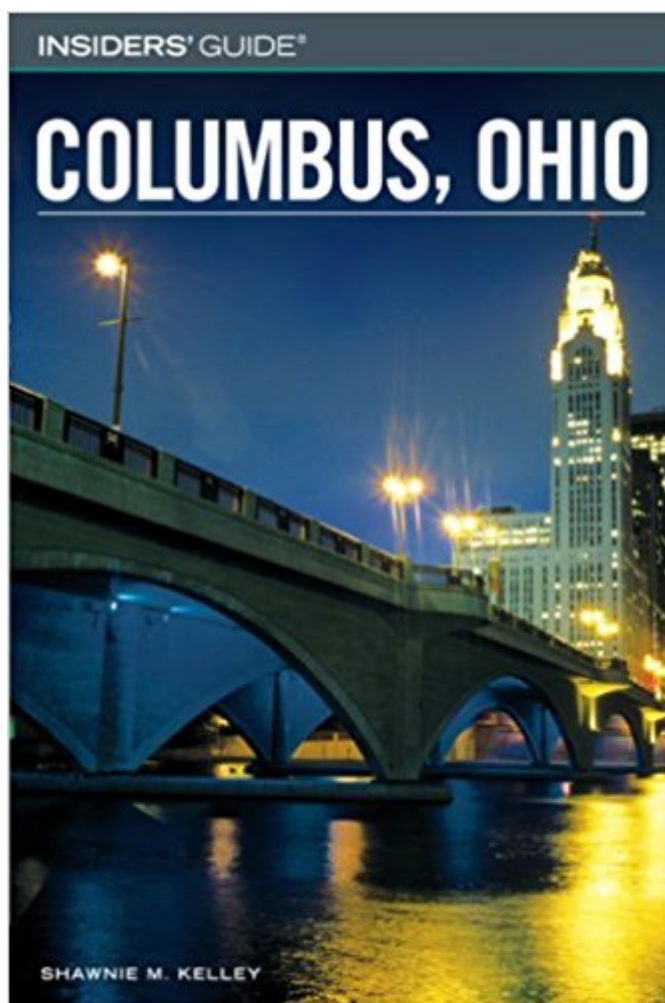


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# Insiders' Guide To Columbus, Ohio (Insiders' Guide Series)



## Synopsis

Columbus, Ohio's capital and the nation's fifteenth largest city, has a small town atmosphere with big city culture, cosmopolitan shopping and top-notch dining. Its geographical location, economic diversity, competitive cost-of-living, and college-town spirit makes Columbus the third fastest growing metro area in the Midwest and a very attractive city to start a business, pursue higher education or raise a family. This guide includes the best of the "Discovery City," where there's a little something for everyone.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

For more than twenty years, the Insiders' Guide® series has remained the essential source for in-depth travel and relocation information. Each guide is written by locals and true insiders and offers a personal, practical perspective that readers everywhere have come to know and love. The nation's fifteenth largest city, Columbus offers small-town atmosphere with big-city culture, cosmopolitan shopping, top-notch dining, and a competitive cost of living. Whether you plan to pursue an education, start a business, or raise a family, let this authoritative guide lead you through the rapidly growing Discovery City. Inside you'll find: Countless details on how to live and thrive in the area, from the best shopping to the lowdown on real estate A comprehensive guide to restaurants, lodging, and recreation opportunities The inside scoop on popular attractions such as the Columbus Zoo, the hands-on COSI Columbus science museum, and The Ohio State University Sections dedicated to children, neighborhoods, seniors, and much more Whether you're planning a vacation, already living in the area, or looking to relocate, Insiders' Guide to Columbus,

Ohio will show you everything you need to know.

Shawnie Kelley moved to Columbus in 1997 and has been studying Art History and Medieval & Renaissance Studies at The Ohio State University. Having spent three years doing art historical and architectural research and writing numerous articles for Historic Scotland and English Heritage, she has redirected this artistic energy into travel writing. She works in Columbus, and resides in Upper Arlington with her partner, Kevin Foy, their cat, Freddie, and two dogs, Riley and Brooklyn.

As a relatively new Ohio State doctoral student (new to Columbus), I am relieved to have access to a guidebook about the city. It is difficult feeling your way around a new territory- especially when many of your friends and colleagues are in the same boat. One of the first things I looked for was information about parks and bike trails- and was pleased with the overall information. A previous review states the absence of Inniswood Gardens, but I beg to differ- it's one of my favorite retreats and I was very excited to see it included. In fact, there are five pages dedicated to the city's MetroParks (pgs. 151-156) and there is even a helpful insiders' tip about Inniswood (pg 154). One thing I did notice, is the index does not include several places that are discussed in the book- such as Inniswood. The indexer seems to have overlooked quite a few things, but it's not to say it isn't in there. As a critical, but conscientious reader I suggest not expecting the index to be a definitive listing of everything in this guide. What I like particularly is how the author manages to spread information across the various chapters. Random restaurants, stores and history pop up in unrelated chapters, keeping it interesting for those of us who do read the book. Like someone else wrote earlier- this isn't a boring book of lists and it isn't arranged as such. The Insiders Guide to Columbus is receiving this positive review by a very thankful grad student. --DJM

I think it's appropriate to say that Ms. Kelley can call Columbus her "hometown" after living here for nearly 10 years. She is not a native to the city, but has made her mark in Columbus just the same. I'd like to think that one native would not scold someone else for feeling at home in their much loved city. How long must one live somewhere to call it home? Gays fight to be viewed as equal and not to be singled out, therefore the community as a whole was not singled out. Gay and lesbian information is clearly integrated into the book, especially the dining, pubs and nightlife chapter. Old Towne East is covered on page 267- no more or no less than other parts of the downtown area. Please take the time to read through the book closely. Please remember - this is a travel guide. Not a phone book. This guide, like any other guide, is not meant to be an exhaustive listing of everything

in the city, rather a selective sampling of what the city has to offer. I trust that Ms. Kelley is open to new suggestions for the 2nd edition. This guide deserves all 5 stars.

Being a life-long resident of this great city of ours, I began to realize the tough job it had to have been in writing this book, with the ever changing facets in our city. I briefly reviewed Ms. Kelley's reviews and found the 1 Star quite unfair. This was meant to be a "guide" not an encyclopedia of Columbus and I have it on my shelf now as just that..." A Wonderful Guide". It's astounding all of the new places I have discovered in this book, even living here all of my life. A GREAT 5 \*\*\*\*\* First Edition and looking forward to the Second. Thanks so much to Ms. Kelley BORN in Pittsburgh, but an exceptional writer and resident of OUR'S and HER city, Columbus. Thanks so much for taking the time and effort in writing this. Wonderful job!

I have used the Insiders' Guides for years now and one of the best things about this series is the amount of information packed between covers. They are fantastic tools for people who are relocating, or like me, work long-term in different cities on a regular basis. I received this guide last week from a friend who was kind enough to have it signed by the author- very thoughtful, indeed. I'm learning a lot about Columbus and can't wait to start trying some of the suggested restaurants. Kudos to Ms. Kelley for compiling such an amazing amount of information for us newbies. She brings a light-hearted and insightful writing style to what could be a boring book of lists! This is one of the best-written Insiders' Guides that I have used.

As a resident of Columbus for over 38 years, I was curious to see what info one could glean from Ms. Kelley's book. After spending a few hours sifting through the chapters, I was amazed at how little I actually knew about my own city. Particularly helpful were the obvious efforts by the author to visit the establishments about which she wrote. I now have a desire to visit some places in Columbus that I had written off in the past. Although Columbus is not quite New York City, it is a growing, vibrant town with plenty to see and do. I think the author does an excellent job of highlighting the best our city has to offer. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in visiting or relocating.

As a native born Columbusite I have to say, this book exceeded my expectations and was my first introduction to the Insider's Guide series. This guide was very well written and helpful to those planning to move here or even just visiting. Even if you know the city very well, you'll most likely not

be let down by some glaring omissions which have so far been demonstrated in other reviews to be non-existent. What you may find are some interesting things that some residents didn't even know about. This book does a wonderful job of exposing the reader to what this city has to offer. I have only one gripe with this book. Please, please, please, don't put "Ohio" after Columbus on the cover/side for the next edition. I'm certain we won't have to worry about Columbus, GA warranting its own guidebook anytime soon. (Not to put down people from that Columbus, but it's a smallish medium size city like Dayton)

Everyone is entitled to an opinion, but the guide certainly doesn't deserve a one-star review. I pre-ordered the book before it even came out- and was not disappointed. I applaud the efforts to undertake such a huge task- whether she was born in Columbus or not. Ms. Kelley definitely takes into account many different places and perspectives from all over the city- and there are a lot of them! It seems to me she touched on a little bit of everything. Like a previous reviewer commented, it is a selective guide book and not a comprehensive directory to every little corner of the city. I am a fan!

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