



**The Road to the Model T  
A Self-Guided Tour Itinerary for Greenfield Village®**

Henry Ford had a vision to create a car that was simple, affordable and versatile — a “car for the great multitude.” He realized his vision with the creation of the Model T. Between 1908 and 1927, Ford Motor Company produced more than 15 million Model T’s, offering reliability and mobility that were unprecedented and previously beyond the dreams of average Americans. At the height of its popularity, the Model T was manufactured in 20 countries, on every continent except Antarctica. It helped make Ford one of the most famous men in the world by the 1920s.

How did this farm boy who grew up near Dearborn, Michigan, grow to be the man many experts consider the greatest entrepreneur of the 20<sup>th</sup> century? Who and what inspired him to build and mass produce the beloved Model T, forever changing the American culture and landscape?

By following the Village map to buildings in the order suggested below and reading the corresponding text on this self-guided tour itinerary, you will begin to answer those questions. This guide will help tell the story of Ford and the events leading up to production of the Model T.

This itinerary is a perfect tool for individuals, families and school groups — anyone who is interested in focusing a visit on the Model T.

**ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS**

Look for **ARE WE THERE YET?** boxes throughout the itinerary guide for activities and questions for young visitors in each building.

**ARE WE THERE YET?**

As you enter *Greenfield Village*, look to your left for the road leading to Firestone Farm (#9 on *Greenfield Village* map). This type of unpaved road was the kind the Model T was built to handle. Although this would have been considered a good road in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, what problems might drivers encounter on unpaved roads like these? What would people look for in a car to help them deal with such problems?



### Henry Ford Theater (#30 on Greenfield Village map)

In the seven-minute film *Road to a Dream*, discover the ordinary beginnings of an extraordinary life. See and hear how young Henry Ford's curiosity, hard work, mechanical aptitude and persistent belief in his dreams resulted in the development of an affordable car for the multitudes.

Go inside the Henry Ford Theater to learn about the early influences on Henry Ford. In this film, look for the ways his actions contributed to his eventual success. Then cross the street to the Henry Ford Home to learn more about the house where he was born and his childhood.



#### ARE WE THERE YET?

##### Inside the Henry Ford Theater:

- Norman Rockwell and Irving Bacon, Henry Ford's personal artist, produced several paintings to capture some key moments in Henry Ford's life. Explore these paintings and find out who and what were these important influences on Henry Ford.
- Henry Ford "found a dream and chased it with all his heart" and changed the world. What are your dreams? What will you do to try to make your dreams come true?

### Ford Home (#29 on Greenfield Village map)

The first of six children, Henry Ford was born in this farmhouse on July 30, 1863, to William and Mary Ford. Growing up here, Ford demonstrated some of the characteristics that would make him successful, powerful and famous. He organized other boys to build rudimentary water wheels and steam engines. He learned about full-size steam engines by becoming friends with the men who ran them. He taught himself to fix watches and used the watches as textbooks to learn basic machine design. Thus, young Ford demonstrated mechanical ability, a facility for leadership and a preference for learning by trial and error. These characteristics would become the foundation of his career. Ford could have followed in his father's footsteps and become a farmer, but he was much more interested in working with machinery. He left the farm at 16 to work in the growing industries of Detroit.

Go inside the Ford Home to see where America's greatest entrepreneur grew up, and learn more about Henry Ford from our historic presenters. Then walk over to the Bagley Avenue Workshop to see the beginnings of Ford's automobile career.



**ARE WE THERE YET?**

**Inside the Ford Home:**

- Look for evidence of how Ford's hard-working family might have spent leisure time.
- Find photographs of William and Mary Ford.
- Browse the touchable family album and scrapbook.



**Bagley Avenue Workshop (#31 on Greenfield Village map)**

By 1896, Henry Ford had risen to chief engineer of the Edison Illuminating Company. But he had other interests. He became one of scores of people across the country working in barns and small shops trying to build horseless carriages. To accommodate his hobby, Ford transformed the storage shed behind his 58 Bagley Avenue duplex in Detroit into a workshop. On June 4, 1896, he put the finishing touches on his own gasoline-powered motor car. He called his creation the "Quadricycle," because it ran on what looked like four heavy bicycle wheels.

Although the

Quadricycle was not the first self-propelled vehicle with a gasoline engine, it helped fuel Ford's automobile ambitions, ultimately leading to the founding of Ford Motor Company in 1903.

Go inside the replica of Ford's Bagley Avenue Workshop to see a reproduction Quadricycle and hear Henry Ford's story from the viewpoint of his neighbor, Felix Julien. Then walk over to Ford Motor Company to learn about the company's beginning.

**ARE WE THERE YET?**

**Inside the Bagley Avenue Workshop:**

- Look at the bicycle behind the Quadricycle. What similarities do you notice?
- Listen to the recording. How does Felix Julien describe Henry Ford?

Visit *Henry Ford Museum* to see the actual Quadricycle built by Henry Ford!

### Ford Motor Company (#32 on Greenfield Village map)

After two attempts to establish a company to manufacture automobiles, Ford Motor Company was incorporated in 1903 with Henry Ford as vice president and chief engineer. The new company's first car, the Model A, was built in this plant on Mack Avenue in Detroit. Groups of two or three men worked on each car from components made to order by other companies, producing only a few cars a day. It was here that Ford first demonstrated his uncanny ability to identify and attract outstanding people. He hired a core of young, able men who believed in his vision and would help make Ford Motor Company into one of the world's great industrial enterprises. After only a year, Ford Motor Company outgrew this building and began construction on the Piquette Avenue Plant, where the Model T, the car that would put the world on wheels, was born.



#### ARE WE THERE YET?

##### Inside Ford Motor Company:

- Watch the film of Henry Ford's fictional interview. Who were some of the people who helped Henry Ford achieve success? What role did they play?

See the historic film footage and dramatic film inside the scaled-down replica of Ford Motor Company. Watch the curtain rise on the 15 millionth Model T produced. Then step outside and look for the **Model T Loading Dock** (#35 on *Greenfield Village* map) to complete your tour with a ride inside a real Model T!

**General Tickets & Membership**  
**Ride Tickets**  
**Gift Shop**  
**Restaurants**  
**Restrooms**  
**ATM**  
**Information**  
**Public Telephone**  
**Male & Female Restrooms**  
**Special Needs Restrooms**  
**First Aid** (see contact on Village staff member)

**To Henry Ford Museum, IMAX® Theatre & Ford Rouge Factory Tour**

**Josephine Ford Plaza**  
 1 Ticket Building  
 2 Greenfield Village Store  
 3 Ticket Surrender Buildings  
 4 Benson Ford Research Center  
 5 Fountain

**Working Farms**  
 6 Firestone Station  
 7 Ford Motor Company  
 8 Robert Wagen Ship  
 9 Firestone Farm  
 10 Cider Mill  
 11 William Ford Barn  
 12 Canning Barn  
 13 Stony Creek

**Liberty Craftworks**  
 14 Loranger Gristmill  
 15 Weaving Shop  
 16 Pottery Shop  
 17 Stony Creek Sawmill  
 18 Trip Sawmill  
 19 Stony Creek Mill Pond  
 20 Stony Creek Mill Pond  
 21 Printing Office & Tin Shop  
 22 Gunsally Carding Mill  
 23 Glass Shop  
 24 The Workshop & Guild Beer Hall  
 25 Amington & Sims Machine Shop  
 26 Hanks Silk Mill  
 27 Mulberry Grove  
 28 Liberty Craftworks Store

**Henry Ford's Model T**  
 29 Ford Home  
 30 Henry Ford Theater  
 31 Bigley Avenue Workshop  
 32 Ford Motor Company  
 33 Dr. Howard's Garden  
 34 Miller School  
 35 Model T Loading Dock

**Railroad Junction**  
 36 Detroit, Toledo & Milwaukee Roundhouse  
 37 Railroad Turntable  
 38 Edison Illuminating Company's Station A  
 39 Smiths Creek Depot

**Main Street**  
 40 Village Pavilion  
 41 L.R. Jones General Store  
 42 Eagle Tavern  
 43 A Taste of History® Restaurant  
 44 Martha-Mary Chapel  
 45 Garden of the Leavened Heart  
 46 Village Green  
 47 Swanee Landing  
 48 Swanee Lagoon  
 49 Swanee Island

**Main Street (continued)**  
 50 Scotch Settlement School  
 51 Logan County Courthouse  
 52 Dr. Howard's Garden  
 53 Town Hall  
 54 Phenixville Post Office  
 55 Frozenville Station  
 56 Activities Building  
 57 Carusel  
 58 Carusel  
 59 Carusel Confections  
 60 Sir John Bennett Sweet Shop  
 61 State Street Lunch Stand  
 62 Grimm Jewelry Store  
 63 Heinz House  
 64 Coburn Millinery  
 65 Heiser Shoe Shop  
 66 Wright Shoe Shop  
 67 Wright Shoe Shop  
 68 Greenfield Village TinType Studio  
 69 Thomas Alva Edison Statue

**Edison at Work**  
 70 Thomas Edison's Menlo Park Complex  
 71 Sarah Jordan Boarding House  
 72 Thomas Edison's Fort Myers Laboratory

**Porches & Parlors**  
 73 Rocks Village Toll House  
 74 The Burdick Garden Office  
 75 Bardonia  
 76 Achley Pond  
 77 Achley Covered Bridge  
 78 Mrs. Fisher's Southern Cooking  
 79 Susquehanna Plantation  
 80 Susquehanna Plantation  
 81 Plympton Family Home  
 82 Farris Windmill  
 83 Daggett Farmhouse  
 84 Cotswold Forge  
 85 Cotswold Cottage & Tea at Cotswold  
 86 Giddings Family Home  
 87 Noah Webster Home  
 88 Spangenberg Home  
 89 Spangenberg Home  
 90 Edison Homestead  
 91 Burbank Store  
 92 Heritage Slave Quarters  
 93 Mattox Family Home  
 94 William Holmes McGuffey Birthplace  
 95 William Holmes McGuffey Birthplace  
 96 George Washington Carver Cabin  
 97 Chapman Family Home  
 98 Adams Family Home  
 99 Charles Stearns Cabin  
 100 Sounds of America Gallery

**Walnut Grove**  
 101 Henry Ford Academy  
 102 Walnut Grove Field  
 103 Walnut Grove Station\*

**For Your Comfort and Safety**  
 \*No food, drinks or smoking permitted in buildings or on rides.  
 \*No rides without headphones.  
 \*Please leave children seated in large buildings.  
 \*Shoes and skirts are required.  
 \*Pets are not allowed in Greenfield Village.  
 \*Photographs allowed for personal use only.

**Greenfield Village Transportation Stops 9:30 am-4:30 pm**  
**Weiser Railroad Train Stations**  
 See #103  
**Bus Stops** \*\*  
**Model T Ride** \*\*  
**OmniBus Shuttle Stops** \*\*

\*\* Includes pickup and drop-off locations. Rides subject to seasonal availability. Omnis available only with Rider Pass. All other rides available individually or with Ride Pass.

**For a complete schedule of upcoming events visit [www.TheHenryFord.org](http://www.TheHenryFord.org).**