



**Resplendent Rides**

*Car & Driver Magazine* named the roads in Hocking Hills as their "Midwestern driving roads of choice" when they brought the Aston Martin Vanquish here for a test drive in spring of 2013. According to *Car & Driver*, "The driving route is maybe the best in the world, this side of the Nürburgring." Their route of choice was a loop on State Route 374 to State Route 56 to State Route 664 and back to State Route 374.

Collector car clubs, motorcycle clubs and folks just out for a pleasant country drive enjoy the beauty that abounds throughout the hills. *Car & Driver's* route of choice is just one of many breathtaking rides that can test the limits of both driver and vehicle.

The roads dip and twist through forests, over high vistas and around hairpin curves. Every season delivers its' unique beauty. Winter's touch is cliff and cave walls covered in ice beards and waterfalls frozen in suspended animation. Spring and summer explode with wildflowers and a million shades of green. As the summer crowds thin in September and fall colors wash the landscape in October the ride becomes truly resplendent.

The Car and Driver route of choice is the lower loop of the Hocking Hills Scenic Byway. The Scenic Byway begins at US 33 and State Route 374. Continue south on State Route 374 to get to the Car and Driver loop of choice where State Route 374 merges with State Route 554. Travel a short distance north till it turns and heads toward State Route 56. Drive west on State Route 56 to South Bloomingville where you pick up State Route 664 and head north back to State Route 374 to complete the loop. TIP: Stop by Jimbo's on State Route 56 in South Bloomingville for one of their legendary burgers.

Head west on State Route 56 to Laurelville. Stop by the Laurelville Visitor's Center on State Route 56 for a area information before continuing west on State Route 56 to Thompson Road (CR36). Turn right on Thompson Road (CR36) and travel northeast to State Route 374. Turn left on State Route 374 and follow State Route 374 a short distance to Jack Run Road (CR138). Travel North on Jack Run to Buena Vista Road. Turn right on Buena Vista Road traveling north continue on to US 33. Tip: Stop in the Laurelville Apple House to pick-up some of the best apple cider in the area.

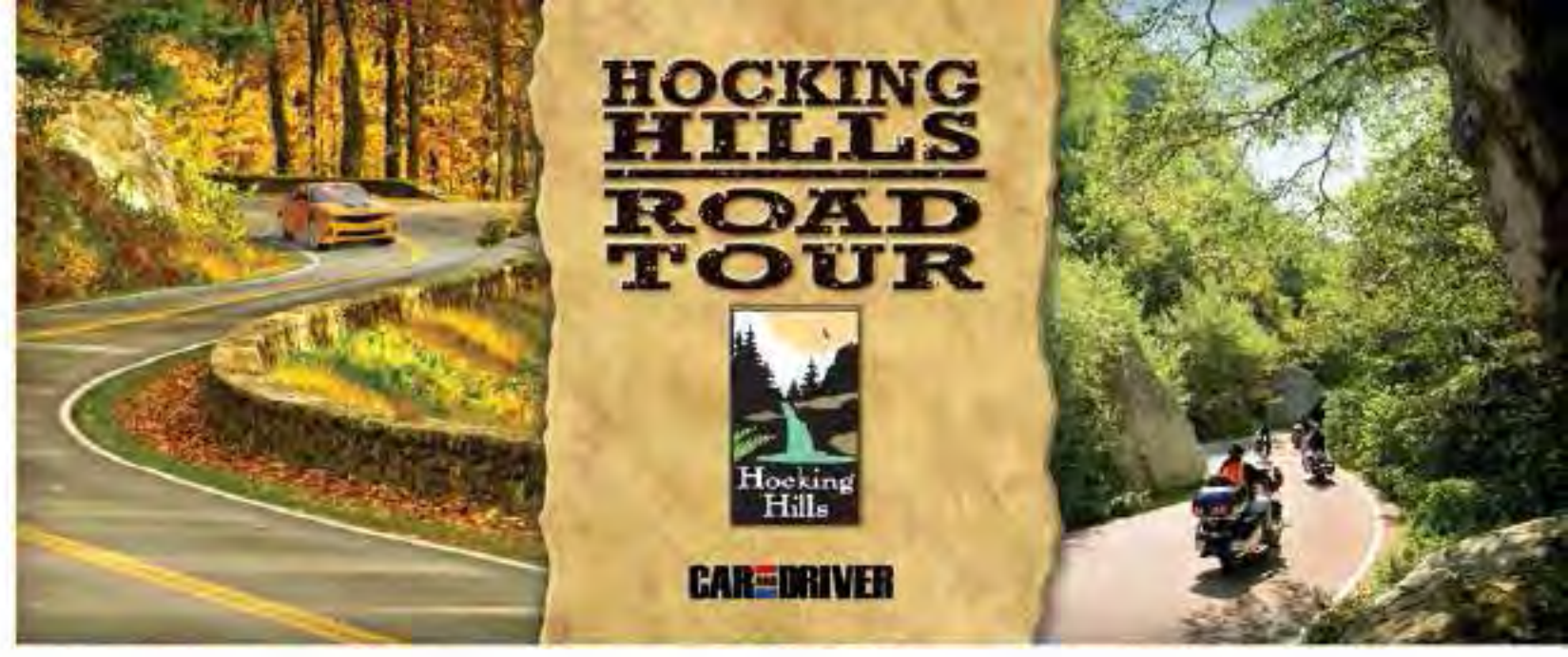
Now it's time to head to the southern Hocking Hills for a drive through Zaleski State Forest and Lake Hope State Park. From US 33 exit at State Route 328 and travel south to State Route 56. Drive east on State Route 56 to State Route 278 then head south on State Route 278 to US 50. Turn east on US 50 to State Route 356 then drive north on State Route 356 to State Route 56. Head west on State Route 56 to State Route 328 then north to US 33. TIP: Have lunch al fresco overlooking Lake Hope at the Lake Hope State Park Lodge on State Route 278.

Stop by the Hocking Hills Regional Welcome Center at 13178 State Route 664 S (US 33 & State Route 664) for maps, directions, suggestions and everything you'll need for a resplendent ride through the Hocking Hills.



**Hocking Hills**  
ExploreHockingHills.com

Lake Hope Loop



Car and Driver / Scenic Byway

