

MEMBERSHIP PACKET

BUTLER COUNTY TOURISM FACTS & FIGURES

TOURISM EXPENDITURE

Out of all PA regions, Pittsburgh and Its Countryside had the third highest level of traveler spending among the state's 11 tourism regions.

TOTAL TRAVEL \$508 M

HOW DOES TOURISM AFFECT THE ECONOMY?



Food/Beverage

Retail

Lodging

Recreation

Transportation



VISITOR IMPACT

Tourism generates revenue every step of the way!



SERVICES, SALES, EMPLOYMENT, WAGES & LOWER TAXES



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

hen you become a member of Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau (BCTCB), you become part of a county-wide initiative that promotes your business. Funded by a 5% bed tax collected by hotels, motels, B&Bs and cabins, the Bureau works to make Butler County, PA an appealing destination for tourists, event planners and meeting planners.

OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE



An Official Visitors Guide (OVG) is produced annually by the Bureau staff. This 68-page full-color guide is distributed in response to requests for information. As a member, you receive a free listing in the OVG and can increase your exposure by advertising. We also produce a 120-page extended version of the guide with even more information including maps and stories. In addition to more than 13,000 impressions online, with an average of three minutes reading time, at least 80,000 copies of the OVG are distributed annually by the following means:

- » Toll-free call requests
- » 40+ county-wide brochure racks
- » Distribution services in PA, MD, D.C., VA, NY and OH
- » Leads from advertising

- » State Welcome Centers
- » Trade & travel shows
- » Fairs & festivals
- » BCTCB website requests
- » State website leads

WEB EXPOSURE



BCTCB members receive a listing with six photos and a description on the Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau's website, VisitButlerCounty.com. In addition, members are linked from BCTCB's website and may make additions and changes to their listing. An online calendar of events provides each member an opportunity to publicize your Butler County events year round. Website advertising opportunities are also available for members. BCTCB's website is linked to the state tourism website, VisitPA.com, VisitPittsburgh.com, and other county and regional sites. Responsive design makes our website viewable on all types of electronic media. The Bureau staff also utilizes social media sites such as Facebook, Instagram and YouTube to further promote the county.

COOPERATIVE ADVERTISING

BCTCB members can participate in cooperative advertising which helps stretch your marketing dollars. In addition, the Bureau contracts with various publications, radio, TV, billboard and online media for advertising. Using budgeted Bureau funds allows individuals and groups to combine resources for ad placement.

COMMUNICATION

To keep members well-informed about what BCTCB is doing, a variety of communication tools exist. As a member, you will receive frequent emails, have access to a members-only section of the website, get a monthly e-newsletter, and have opportunities to attend monthly board meetings and quarterly membership meetings. We also offer educational workshops and programs throughout the year. BCTCB's toll free number, 866-856-8444, enables tourists throughout the United States and Canada to contact us free of charge. We have monthly public emails that going out to subscribers that includes information on upcoming events and information about our members.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

PUBLIC RELATIONS



BCTCB has strong PR connections. The Bureau is represented in MATPRA, the Mid-Atlantic Tourism Public Relations Alliance. Monthly, events are sent to local media and information is submitted to VisitPA in accordance with their editorial calendar. The Bureau also conducts tours for writers, and other media outreach is conducted to support members when applicable.

SOCIAL MEDIA

From Facebook features to Instagram reels, we showcase the talents and achievements of our members across multiple platforms. Joining our community doesn't just grant access to resources, it also means getting featured on our social media platforms, boosting your visibility and connecting with a wider audience. We'll be your biggest cheerleaders!

PROMOTIONAL WEBPAGES



Special webpages are created to feature holiday sales, events and other promotions. This gives members more opportunities for additional exposure.

PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING

As a BCTCB member, you will have opportunities to meet and network with other members as well as travel and tourism leaders. You'll join a thriving community of passionate individuals and together, you'll learn, grow and make new connections.



SALES REPRESENTATION AT TRADE SHOWS



BCTCB participates in regional Sales initiatives designed to meet with event planners from across the US and Canada. BCTCB promotes its members to the meeting, sports, wedding, group tour, and special event organizations for group and transient travelers.

GRANT PROGRAM

A grant program enables members to apply for monies to implement a project or improvement. Whether it's building an outdoor stage or launching a groundbreaking program, unlock your potential with a financial boost. Funds are awarded once a year and applications are available on the members-only section of the website. Grants require a 25% match and membership for at least one year before applying.

BROCHURE DISTRIBUTION

Tourism-based members are given the opportunity to include their materials in our office brochure rack. We ask for approximately 250 brochures so visitors may pick them up or request a mailing.

BCTCB also offers a Brochure Rack Program showcasing your brochure in our prime-positioned brochure racks. For \$100 per year, we'll add your brochures to a portion of our county-wide racks. To start, 2,500 brochures are needed. Contact us for availability and specific details.

GIFT CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

This program makes gift certificates available to the public through the BCTCB website and office. Gift Certificates are designed and provided by BCTCB. Members are given the opportunity to participate by being added to an advertised list of locations where the certificates may be redeemed. These members are then reimbursed for each gift certificate spent at their store. Participation is free.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA



BCTCB bylaws qualify tourism-based industries and each have a representative on the Board of Directors.

- » Agritourism
- » Arts & Culture
- » Breweries, Wineries & Distilleries
- » Campgrounds
- » Fairs, Festivals & Attractions/Family Entertainment
- » Great Outdoors
- » History & Heritage
- » Lodging
- » Conference, Meeting & Banquet Facilities
- » Restaurant, Catering & Concessions
- » Shopping
- » Sports & Sports Venues
- » Transportation

We also welcome businesses as **Supporting Members** who believe in our mission.

Members are asked to provide support through annual dues, voting, and participation in meetings and other relevant activities. In addition, professional conduct through good customer service, ethical business practices and clean, well-maintained facilities are expected. The Board of Directors is responsible for approving all memberships.

STANDARD MEMBERSHIP

\$235 per year

- » Name, address, phone number, website and 25-word description in the Official Visitors Guide
- » Listing on website (name, address, phone, description unlimited length, web links and photos plus map system and tagging capabilities)
- » Brochure distribution at the BCTCB office
- » Networking and educational opportunities

MEMBERSHIP: NON-PROFIT

\$180 per year

Includes all Standard Membership benefits. A 501(c)(3) or equivalent form is required to document status. Please include it with your application.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER

Beginning at \$500

Includes all Standard Membership benefits. Exclusive benefits as negotiated with BCTCB. A partnership package will be individually tailored to suit the needs and mission of your company or organization.

- Logo presence at networking and educational events
- Banner ad on website
- Enhanced presence in the Official Visitors Guide

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

\$100 Brochure Rack Program

Based on availability, the Bureau will distribute standard tri-fold tourism-based brochures in racks throughout the county. At least 2,500 brochures are required to initiate the program.

\$110 Additional Location

Members having more than one location in the county can add additional listings for each location in the Official Visitors Guide and on the website. If a business has a different name it will be considered a separate member at the \$215 rate.

Membership dues are renewed January 1, of each year.



A Member's Comment

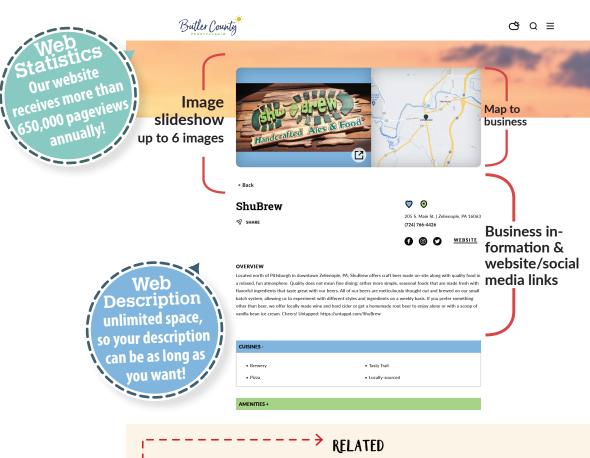
Becoming a member was one of the best things we ever did for our small business! They support local businesses in so many ways! THANK YOU!

- Eleven Eleven Gifts



Membership rates are subject to change every 2 years.

YOUR PERSONALIZED WEBPAGE





CO-OP ADVERTISING

Co-op Advertising Opportunities Exclusive to BCTCB Members

By partnering with Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau for advertising, you save money, and we save money. The more we save, the more we have to spend promoting the county!

Opportunities start at just \$20 and include Facebook, the Butler Eagle and more.

Please contact us for more information. 724-234-4619 | Marketing@VisitButlerCounty.com

Co-op Advertising Example

In 2022, four members shared the cost of this full-page ad in the Pittsburgh visitors guide, making it affordable for everyone!



MEMBERSHIP TIPS

Suggestions for Successful Membership

The key is **communication**. If you stay tuned in to what we're doing, you can participate. If you let us know what you're doing, we can promote it!

Join the conversation via social media

Connect with us so we know what's happening and can share your content!
(There are links at the bottom of VisitButlerCounty.com)



Facebook – if you only use one site, this should be it!



Instagram - pictures!



Pinterest – a digital bulletin board



LinkedIn – like Facebook for professionals. Be sure to join our members' only group!



YouTube – videos!



Get to know the staff

We all have different strengths and specialties. If you need help with something, we're here to support you!

Make an account on our website.

- This is how you can submit your events, and you can also update your listing. After all, you know your business better than we do!
- You can also access special information just for Bureau members.

Add us to your email and mailing lists

The easiest way to keep us up-to-speed is without even having to think about it!

Marketing@VisitButlerCounty.com



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

oday's Date: Year Business/Organization Established:		
Business Name:		
Contact Person:	Ti	itle:
Physical Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Website:	Busi	ness Phone:
Cell: Email:		
Facebook: Twit	ter:	Instagram:
Business Type:		
Additional Location (See membership criteria):		
*25-word description for Official Visitors Guide:		
Long description for website listing (Please let us know	y if you require assista	nce).
Long description for website listing (Flease let us know	v II you require assista	nce).
*Please submit up to three horizontal photos of yo	ur business. <i>Mav be</i>	emailed to Rvan@VisitButlerCountv.com
Brochure Distribution: Tourism-based members a	_	
office brochure rack. We ask for approximately 2!	-	
mailing. BCTCB also offers a Brochure Rack Progr		
of our county-wide racks. To start, 2,500 brochure		
Membership Options - Check all that apply	Payment	t Method:
		neck enclosed
Gift Certificate Program FREE *Beer Circuit FREE		asterCard SA
*Coffee Connection FREE	<u> </u>	nerican Express
*Sweet Tooth Trail FREE		ay Online - visitbutlercounty.com/membership-renewal
<u> </u>	Credit Ca	rd Number:
Membership: Standard\$235	Card Expi	iration Date:
Membership: Non-Profit\$180	Security (Code:
Additional Location	Name tha	t appears on the Card:
Brochure Rack Program \$100		
Contributing Memberstarting at \$500		
	Signature	:
	Date:	
Total Amount Enclosed: \$		ake check payable to:
		ounty Tourism & Convention Bureau
*BCTCB approval needed for inclusion.	310 East (Grandview Avenue, Zelienople, PA 16063