



# ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Brent Cooper, President and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce of Northern Kentucky, said, "If you're a hotel owner or restaurant manager in the region, you're ecstatic that 10 million visitors have chosen to come to Northern Kentucky to tour the two attractions."

"Also, think of all the sales tax collected by the state from these visitors and the creation of thousands of jobs because of the Ark and museum. I'm pleased to report that several more hotels are being built or are already on the drawing board to serve future Ark and museum visitors as they continue to pour into our region. Indeed, the attractions have had a remarkable economic impact on the region."

Next to the Ark Encounter's parking lot, a large Hampton Inn and Suites (125 rooms) is already going up, for a 2023 opening. While state sales tax collected by the Ark Encounter is significant, it represents just a part of all taxes paid by Ark visitors in the region when they stay in hotels, eat in restaurants, fill up with gas, etc., creating significant economic impact.

Over the years, directly and indirectly, the Ark has added many tens of millions of dollars into the state and local treasuries, plus has seen the construction of several new hotels to meet guest demand, especially in the cities of Dry Ridge (just north of the Ark) and Florence – yet recognizing that many more hotels still need to be built: on some summer days, no hotel rooms are available within an hour's drive of the Ark. Research has shown that over 92% of Ark and museum guests come from outside Kentucky.

The Ark, Creation Museum and AiG employ over 1,000 staff (full-time, part-time and seasonal staff at various times), which makes them significant employers in the region.



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## A Hidden Gem

- Home to more than 26,000 citizens and a population that has grown 58% since 1990.
- Ninth fastest growing county in the Commonwealth.
- Located on I-75, one of the nation's busiest highways
- Situated between two major economic engines- Lexington and Northern Kentucky (Boone, Campbell and Kenton Counties).
- Less than a 30-minute drive from the CVG International Airport.
- Location offers quick access to nationally ranked urban city services, entertainment, professional sports and arts, both in Cincinnati and in Lexington.
- Grant County offers a comfortable community atmosphere, where people are friendly and family is important.
- The Community takes great pride in community heritage, which includes a farming economy, beautiful churches, safe schools and caring, involved people.
- Grant County still has available land, affordable utilities and a clean environment.

Source - Grant County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development

