



GOLDEN LAMB

SINCE 1803

Restaurant and Hotel

27 S. Broadway
Lebanon, OH 45036
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ABOUT THE GOLDEN LAMB

Since 1803, the Golden Lamb has been a gathering place for the community – for neighbors, travelers, statesmen, presidents, and for families and friends.

Our legacy runs deep – infused with the spirit of hospitality, accented by the flavors of history, and framed by inspiring events. We’ve delighted our guests with excellent service and memorable food and drink for over 215 years in a unique atmosphere found nowhere else.

OUR RESTAURANT

Today, the Golden Lamb restaurant is a year-round dining destination for the region and is known for using only high-quality, fresh ingredients, sourced from local farms and providers whenever possible.

Inspired by the agricultural heartland we call home, we made a daring decision to start our own farm in 2018. Today, the Golden Lamb’s 350-acre farm hosts rows of vegetables, herbs and melons; a field of popcorn; several head of cattle; a berry patch and even beehives, which directly inspire dishes from our farm to your table.





Chef Nick Roudebush's culinary team takes pride in preparing each dish from scratch, including the classics enjoyed by generations of Golden Lamb guests – like our famous golden fried chicken, roasted turkey breast and hickory roasted prime rib. Chef's team also crafts unique seasonal menus that celebrate ingredients harvested from the Golden Lamb farm throughout the year. These special menus include our fall Bounty of the Harvest menu, and holiday offerings celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas.

The Golden Lamb stays true to its humble Shaker roots, featuring simple tables and chairs among other Shaker artifacts that decorate the restaurant throughout three dining rooms, the Black Horse Tavern and 5 private dining rooms.

The Black Horse Tavern, adjacent to the Golden Lamb restaurant, is a more casual gathering place, featuring a pub menu and weekly food and drink specials that focus on quality, fresh ingredients. Guests to the tavern enjoy a relaxed atmosphere and live music Thursday through Saturday nights. Since its addition, the Black Horse Tavern has become one of Ohio's favorite neighborhood taverns for casual, delicious dining.

In July 2019, the Golden Lamb ushered in a new era for the Black Horse Tavern, adding a new seasonal 60-seat, outdoor, southern-style porch, a completely renovated main tavern room with an indoor fireplace, an enhanced bar area with multiple draft beers & luxury wines, and the Golden Lamb's first branded beverage — our Black Horse Tavern Golden Lager — made in collaboration with Warped Wing Brewery.



The relaunch of the Black Horse Tavern was the most significant investment to the Golden Lamb in more than 50 years and ensures the Golden Lamb will continue to be an anchor in the Lebanon community for decades to come.

OUR HOTEL

The Golden Lamb has never lost sight of its roots as a hotel. Today, the hotel mixes modern amenities with antiques and Shaker décor. Located on the top three floors, each one of the 17 historic overnight rooms features stunning antique furnishings, new Tempur-Pedic mattresses, private baths, television and air conditioning.

Each room is named after a famous guest, featuring well-known names such as Charles Dickens, Ulysses S. Grant, Samuel Clemens, Ronald Reagan and William Howard Taft.

The Charles Dickens Room features a beautiful and impressive 10-foot rosewood headboard similar to the one in the Lincoln Bedroom at the White House. It is believed to be made by the same manufacturer. The stately antique four-poster canopy double bed in the George W. Bush Room is the same one used by First Lady Barbara Bush during her visit to the Golden Lamb.

For more information on the Golden Lamb Restaurant and hotel, visit www.goldenlamb.com.

OUR COMMUNITY

The Golden Lamb stands proudly as the centerpiece of historic downtown Lebanon, Ohio, located just northeast of Greater Cincinnati. The area attracts residents and visitors alike with more than 50 specialty boutique and antique shops along its brick sidewalks, all of which is anchored by the Golden Lamb.

Lebanon is the home of several local attractions and beautiful parks, including a theater company, symphony, historical museum, passenger train rides and a sports park that attracts national and regional competitions.

The buildings and downtown area have maintained their historic integrity, buoyed by rapid development in communities in surrounding areas.

Lebanon sits in the heart of Warren County – dubbed “Ohio’s largest playground” thanks to large attractions like Kings Island amusement park and a thriving sports tournament industry. Warren County is also a great place for a “grown up getaway” with outdoor adventures – like kayaking, biking, canoeing or ziplining – and shopping with more than 100 antique and boutique shops within minutes of the Golden Lamb, including the Cincinnati Premium Outlets.

Visitors come from all over for the many events in Lebanon and Warren County throughout the year, including the [Lebanon Country Music Fest](#) in June, [Turtle Creek Music Festival](#) in July, [Lebanon Blues Festival](#) in August, [Country Applefest](#) in September, [Ohio Sauerkraut Festival](#) in October, and the [Lebanon Horse Drawn Carriage Parade and Festival](#) in December.

NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- [One of Ohio’s “best classic restaurants,” according to Food & Wine in 2020](#)
- [“Most famous restaurant in Ohio,” according to MSN in 2019](#)
- [“Ohio’s most haunted restaurant,” according to Food Network in 2019](#)
- [“Most delicious place for pie in Ohio,” according to USA Today in 2018](#)

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For more information, media may contact Hannah Carver at 812-622-0509 or media@goldenlamb.com.

THE HISTORY OF THE GOLDEN LAMB

When Jonas Seaman traveled from New Jersey to Ohio in 1803 and spent \$4 for a license to operate a “house of Public Entertainment” on Broadway in the newly-founded village of Lebanon, he could never have imagined that more than 215 years later his establishment would still be offering food and lodging for travelers.

Today, the Golden Lamb is recognized as the longest continually operating business in Ohio.

Seaman’s establishment got its name from the sign hung outside the business – an image of a golden lamb, used because many early travelers could not read.

Robert Jones took over the property in 1926 and began transforming it into the restaurant and hotel that it has become. The Jones family still owns the Golden Lamb today.

The Golden Lamb owes its early success to its location – halfway between Cincinnati and the National Road (now U.S. Route 40). Throughout its history, the restaurant and hotel has hosted a number of historical figures, including 12 United States Presidents, and today is still serving excellent cuisine to guests from all over the country.



PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO THE GOLDEN LAMB

Throughout its more than 215-year history, [the Golden Lamb](#) has hosted, entertained and provided lodging for many notable guests, but none more honorable than 12 United States presidents. From its early days as a stopping point between Cincinnati and the National Road to its historic legacy as a political stop in a battleground state, United States presidents have visited the Golden Lamb before, during, and after their time in our nation's highest office.

John Quincy Adams

John Quincy Adams, the 6th president of the United States, was one of two presidents to visit Lebanon after his term in office. He visited in 1843 while on his way to dedicate the cornerstone of the Cincinnati Observatory.

Martin Van Buren

Martin Van Buren, the 8th president of the United States, was one of two presidents to visit the Golden Lamb after their presidencies. He had lost his re-election bid in 1840 to William Henry Harrison, but was still considered the frontrunner for the 1844 Democratic presidential nomination when he came to the Golden Lamb June 4, 1842. After dining at the Golden Lamb (then known as The Bradley House), he traveled to Columbus.

William Henry Harrison

William Henry Harrison, 9th president of the United States, visited the Golden Lamb at least three times. On July 22, 1825 he was one of several dignitaries at a dinner in Lebanon celebrating the beginning of the Miami and Erie Canal in nearby Middletown. At the time, he was the U.S. senator from Ohio. In 1840, Harrison was running for president and passed through Lebanon on June 4. He was on his way to make his first presidential campaign speech at Fort Meigs, near Toledo. On September 12, 1840 he spoke in Lebanon in a grove near what is now the fairgrounds north of town. A parade began in front of the Golden Lamb that took Harrison, and the crowd who came to hear him, to the location of his speech.

Ulysses S. Grant

Ulysses S. Grant, 18th president of the United States, grew up in Georgetown, Ohio. As a child, he traveled all over the region, including Lebanon, which, during the 1820s and 1830s, was one of the largest towns in the state. It was during this time period that Grant first visited the Golden Lamb.

Rutherford B. Hayes

Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th U.S. president, came to Lebanon on August 5, 1867 to begin his campaign for governor of Ohio. He and his Democratic opponent agreed to start their campaigns on the same day. Hayes chose Lebanon and Allen G. Thurman picked Waverly, Ohio.

James A. Garfield

James A. Garfield was the 20th president of the United States and visited the Golden Lamb August 26, 1871, when he was a member of congress. He spoke that night at Washington Hall (two blocks north and one east of The Golden Lamb).

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Benjamin Harrison

Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd president of the United States, was entertained at the Golden Lamb while he came to address a reunion of Civil War soldiers from the 35th and 79th Ohio regiments at the Warren County Fairgrounds.

William McKinley

The last time William McKinley, the 25th president of the United States, came to the Golden Lamb was October 24, 1893. McKinley was running for re-election as Ohio governor and spoke at the Lebanon Opera House. He was elected president in 1896.

William Howard Taft

In 1898, William Howard Taft, the 27th president of the United States, sat on the sixth U.S. Circuit Court bench in Cincinnati. He came to Lebanon for the funeral of a judge whom he respected greatly. Taft attended a dinner for those that made the trip for the funeral at the Lebanon House (which was the name of the Golden Lamb at the time).

Warren G. Harding

Warren G. Harding, the 29th U.S. president, visited the Golden Lamb while in Lebanon to speak at the Lebanon Opera House, located across the street from the Golden Lamb (where the Lebanon City Building is today). His first speech at the Lebanon Opera House was on October 16, 1910, during his unsuccessful campaign for governor of Ohio. Exactly four years later, on October 16, 1914, he spoke there again during a successful campaign for United States Senate.

Ronald Reagan

Ronald Reagan, the 40th president, visited the Golden Lamb September 19, 1968. At the time, he had been governor of California for two years and was in town to campaign for the re-election of Congressman Donald E. Lukens. Thousands of people, many of them movie fans, watched the fanfare in front of the Golden Lamb. Reagan also spoke to about 100 people in the Black Horse Tavern.

George W. Bush

George W. Bush, 43rd president of the United States, visited the Golden Lamb on May 4, 2004. Of the 12 presidents who have visited the Golden Lamb, President Bush was the only one to do so while in office.

THE GOLDEN LAMB FACTS AND TRIVIA



[The Golden Lamb](#) has continually operated since its opening in 1803, and it is recognized as Ohio's longest continually operating business.

Guests

Twelve United States presidents have visited the Golden Lamb over its more than 215-year history. Nine visited before they were elected president; two came after their times in office; and only one, President George W. Bush, came while he was serving in the White House.

Scores of notable and popular political figures have visited the Golden Lamb over more than 215 years, including Barbara Bush, Mitt Romney and Henry Clay.

Legendary American heroes like Neil Armstrong and Annie Oakley have also spent time at the Golden Lamb. (While it's not clear when exactly Annie Oakley visited, it is known that she supplied game to the Golden Lamb – known as the Lebanon House – in the early 1870s.)

Literary greats Charles Dickens, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Alex Haley, James Whitcomb Riley, Louis Bromfield and Samuel Clemens have all visited the Golden Lamb.

Movie star Charles Laughton, MGM's Captain Bligh from the 1935 film "Mutiny on the Bounty," and pop singer Kesha are just a few examples of famous show business performers to have visited the Golden Lamb.

More than 11 million visitors come to Warren County annually.

Features



On June 19, 1931, the Ford Motor Company's Twenty Millionth Car promotional tour stopped at the Lebanon Hotel (Golden Lamb). The car, a 1931 Model A, was black with the words "The Twenty Millionth" painted in white across its doors on either side of the auto with the large blue and white oval Ford logo below them.

Holidays

The Golden Lamb has served a Thanksgiving feast to guests every year since the day was declared a national holiday in 1870. Now every year, it fixes more than 2,000 pounds of turkey, complimented by 50 gallons of two-day roasted turkey gravy, which it serves to 1,500 patrons.

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Ghost Stories

Some say the Golden Lamb is haunted. Many visitors and staff over the years have reported paranormal encounters while working or visiting The Golden Lamb restaurant and hotel. Sarah Stubbs was a resident at the Golden Lamb when she was a child, but some say her ghost remains in the building.

In 1871, Clement L. Vallandigham, one of America's most controversial politicians, accidentally killed himself in his room at the Golden Lamb. While demonstrating his plan to deliver his final address to a jury in a murder trial, Vallandigham pulled his pistol from his pocket and, in a freak accident, the gun fired a bullet into his abdomen. He died the next morning.

Artifacts

The DeWitt Clinton and Jeremiah Morrow guest rooms in the Golden Lamb rooms have rather unusual sized beds by today's standards. They are three-quarter beds and are twelve inches wider than a single bed but six inches smaller than a double.

A former Kentucky slave, Henry Boyd, made the over 150-year-old headboard and bed frame in the DeWitt Clinton Room in the Golden Lamb. In the early 19th century, this innovative cabinetmaker was able to make enough money in his "free" time to buy his own freedom. Boyd eventually established a successful furniture making shop in pre-Civil War Cincinnati.



THE GOLDEN LAMB – SEVEN STORY IDEAS

Shaker Artifacts



In the late 1920s, Robert and Virginia Jones purchased the Golden Lamb, and 10 years later, a fire nearly gutted the third and fourth floors. The Jones' could not afford to buy new furniture, so they purchased second-hand pieces to replace what had been lost. Little did they know how priceless these pieces would become. Today, the Golden Lamb has a vast and beautiful collection of Shaker artifacts on display throughout the restaurant and hotel, including documents, furniture and literature. Its many dining rooms feature numerous antiques, including a rare Shaker chest sitting in the corner of the Black Horse Tavern dining room.

The Shaker Dining Room is also decorated with many of the artifacts in The Golden Lamb's collection. Golden Lamb Historian John Zimkus, with the Warren County Historical Society, gives wonderful information and details about The Golden Lamb and the treasures and history inside.

The Holidays at The Golden Lamb

From Thanksgiving through Christmas, friends and families have been gathering for generations to celebrate the holidays at the Golden Lamb, and for good reason. There is nothing more magical than a delicious meal with loved ones, surrounded by the historic charm of The Golden Lamb, decorated with garland, ribbon and lights.

The Golden Lamb serves as a beautiful backdrop to one of the region's most unique Christmas celebrations – the Horse Drawn Carriage Parade and Festival in historic downtown Lebanon. People travel from across the country to sit down for a holiday meal at the Golden Lamb and take in the festive holiday parade of horse-drawn carriages decorated in their holiday best from The Golden Lamb's balconies and private dining rooms.



Whether you're looking for a delectable turkey dinner or traditional Christmas dinner inspired by Christmases past, the Golden Lamb is the perfect place to celebrate the season.

Historic Lebanon, Ohio

The Golden Lamb has continually operated since its opening in 1803 and is recognized as Ohio's longest continually operating business. The restaurant and hotel sit in the heart of historic downtown Lebanon, surrounded by more than 50 shops along brick sidewalks that add distinct character and charm to the community.

The restaurant and inn are furnished with beautiful antique pieces, including Shaker artifacts in the dining rooms and antique beds in each room.

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The Charles Dickens Hotel Room features a beautiful and impressive 10- foot rosewood headboard similar to the one in the Lincoln Bedroom at the White House. It is believed to be made by the same manufacturer. The stately four-poster canopy double bed in the George W. Bush Room is the same one used by First Lady Barbara Bush during her visit to the Golden Lamb.

A getaway to The Golden Lamb is the perfect place for history lovers. From the historical artifacts and furnishings at the Golden Lamb to the antique and specialty shops within walking distance, there's sure to be something for everyone to enjoy while on a special trip to the Golden Lamb.

The Golden Lamb – The Stagecoach Stop

In 1803, Jonas Seaman obtained a license to operate a “house of public entertainment” in Lebanon, Ohio. He called his pub the Golden Lamb and had hopes for attracting travelers between Cincinnati and The National Road along the state coach route.

The Golden Lamb was along a “broad way” in the heart of Lebanon, where the road was one-and-a-half times wider than other streets so stagecoaches would be able to turn around in the middle of the road.

The National Road was the first major road to cross the Appalachian Mountains. It is what is now US 40 and is shadowed by I-70 across Ohio. After the National Road reached Columbus in 1836, travel to Eastern cities from Cincinnati through Columbus increased, and more people passed through Lebanon and stopped at the Golden Lamb. The trip from Cincinnati and Columbus took more than 24 hours in 1837.



The Golden Lamb – Haunted Inn?

Many guests and employees of the Golden Lamb have given reports of paranormal activity during their time at the Golden Lamb. Some say that the spirits of several ghosts still occupy the rooms of restaurant and hotel.

Clement L. Vallandigham, a celebrated U.S. congressman from Ohio, fatally shot himself by accident in the room that now bears his name. Several reports of a man matching Vallandigham's description have been made over the years.

Others believe the hotel to be haunted by the spirit of Ohio Supreme Court Justice Charles R. Sherman, the father of Civil War General William T. Sherman, who suddenly died at the Inn at the age of 41, leaving his wife and 11 children penniless. Most of his children were put up for adoption, and some say the guilt of his family's demise keeps his spirit at the Inn.

Visitors and staff have also reported ghostly encounters with a little girl, and they are believed to be the spirit of Sarah Stubbs or Eliza Clay. Stubbs lived at the Golden Lamb as a child, but eventually grew, married and had a family of her own. Some say she appears at the Golden Lamb as a young girl. Others believe the young girl is actually Eliza Clay, the daughter of Henry Clay – President John Quincy Adams's Secretary of State and famous in Kentucky as a U.S. Senator. The Clay family was traveling to Washington, D.C. when little

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Eliza fell ill and forced the family to stop at the Golden Lamb. Eliza succumbed to her illness at the Golden Lamb and was buried in a local cemetery, far away from her Lexington, KY. home.

A Grown-Up Getaway to The Golden Lamb

Warren County is widely recognized as “Ohio’s largest playground” because it is the largest tourism destination county in Ohio, thanks in large part to the county’s fun, family-friendly activities. However, there is plenty more for adults in and around the Golden Lamb.



Outdoor adventures like zip lining over the Little Miami River Valley and biking, kayaking or canoeing through the county are great ways to spend a day outside in the community surrounding the Golden Lamb. Many outdoor festivals occur throughout the year, including Country Applefest, the Lebanon Antique Show and the Lebanon Horse Drawn Carriage Parade and Festival.

If you’re looking for a romantic getaway, the Golden Lamb has everything you might need within walking distance. Peruse the shops at the Golden Lamb and throughout historic downtown Lebanon. Then, stay the night at the Golden Lamb and enjoy a delicious, romantic dinner at the restaurant.

From our Farm to Your Table

Inspired by the agricultural heartland we call home, we made a daring decision to start our own farm in 2018. Today, the Golden Lamb’s 350-acre farm hosts rows of vegetables, herbs and melons; a field of popcorn; several head of cattle; a berry patch and even five beehives which directly inspire dishes from our farm to your table.



The Golden Lamb prides itself on using only high-quality, fresh ingredients, sourced from local farms and providers whenever possible. Many of the ingredients growing on our farm can be found in our classic favorites and traditional menus, as well as several seasonal menus served for a limited time throughout the year – like our Bounty of the Fall Harvest menu – which celebrate the season’s harvest.

Maintaining this property is truly a Golden Lamb family affair with many of the inn and restaurant employees pitching in to help around planting and harvest seasons. Even Chef Nick Roudebush can often be seen out on the farm picking the week’s best produce and gaining inspiration for seasonal menus and specials.

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