

About Central Florida Roadtrip

CharacterTowns.org discovered the Central Florida Roadtrip while viewing WUCF and took the opportunity to meet with Dr. Hoffman to discuss his ideas. The Roadtrip is a wonderful way for people to learn about their community and others nearby that they might pass through as they traverse the metro Orlando region. Dr. Hoffman’s approach uncovers community aspects missed in the traditional planning process. His interviews and insights are revealing and can readily be incorporated into every city’s comprehensive plan. View the episodes available, contemplate sponsoring an episode in your town and take the experiences of others to heart.



from WUCF – ‘Central Florida Roadtrip was born out of an idea to allow viewers to learn more about the cities and towns in which they live and visit. The first show premiered on October 8, 2017, in Sanford, Florida, originally called Mellonville.

LINK: <https://video.wucftv.org/show/central-florida-roadtrip/>

“As we live through history right now, host Dr. Phil Hoffman and producer Buddy Pittman take a look back at trips from the past with *Central Florida Roadtrip: At Home*. They’ll share stories, memories, and behind-the-scenes moments from favorite episodes.”

Dr. Hoffman and Mr. Pittman have produced several shows that visit: Daytona Beach, Orlando, Oviedo, Tavares, Winter Garden, Winter Park and an overview of Central Florida. These can be viewed at the link provided above. You will find episodes such as: **At Home: Tavares**, Season 6 Episode 5.

<https://video.wucftv.org/video/at-home-tavares-z2df2u/>

About the Host: Dr. Phil Hoffman

“Like so many folks who experience Orlando, I thought I had *been* to Orlando many times before I ever arrived at WUCF. From 1997-2016, we visited the area on family vacations a total of 14 times from our home in the frozen tundra of Northeast Ohio.



“And our experience was centered around attractions and theme parks. So it was a real eye-opener for me after moving to Orlando in 2016 -- as they say at the Orlando Economic Partnership, “I didn’t know the half of it.” Not even close to half.

“My first clue early on was a visit to downtown Sanford for a WUCF event. I had no idea there were parts of Florida with cities that went back to the 19th century or even earlier. The more I visited places in my new job, the more I realized people really do need to know about the history here. I heard this from so many viewers -- natives who had families going back generations and people like me who were new to the area and wanting to learn more. The overwhelming message was ***we want more history***.

“And so ***Central Florida Roadtrip*** was born. To be honest, I spend most of my working hours studying budgets and reading contracts, so it was also a way for me to have some fun in the new city and pretend I was working.

“Doing the show has made me really appreciate the Central Florida area. It’s been a great chance for me to grow to appreciate the area like the natives do. To really start to understand the quirks, the beauty, and the fun that makes up Central Florida. And to meet great people from all over our area who love where they live and work every day to make life better here.

“And also, let’s face it, we need to work to present a story to the rest of the country that doesn’t start with.... ‘Florida man....’”

-- Phil Hoffman, host of ***Central Florida Roadtrip***

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