Thirteen miles northeast of Los Angeles, Ontario is known as the “gateway to Southern California.” The city has its own international airport and is near L.A. attractions, Palm Springs, Disneyland and other theme parks, as well as the mountain resorts of Lake Arrowhead and Big Bear. While in Ontario, visitors can shop for antiques, find bargains at Ontario Mills shopping center, tour Graber Olive House, have fun at Scandia Amusement Park and visit the local Museum of History and Art.

It takes its name from the Ontario Model Colony development established in 1882 by the Canadian engineer George Chaffey and his brothers William Chaffey and Charles Chaffey. They named the settlement after their home province of Ontario.

While Ontario will serve as the home base for our reunion this year, you might consider arriving a day or two early or staying over a couple of extra days to enjoy all that Ontario and the surrounding area has to offer!

Thursday, October 19, 2023 tour:
Board at 8:15am depart~8:30am Tour is all-inclusive: admission and LUNCH!
March Field Air Museum
March Field Air Museum displays nearly 80 historic aircraft spanning nearly 100 years of aviation history. Their collection includes examples ranging from the frail fabric covered bi-planes of the First World War, to the sleek jet fighters of today, from the rugged helicopters of the Vietnam period to the futuristic unmanned aerial vehicles of tomorrow’s battlefields. More than five decades after its development, the sleek, futuristic Lockheed SR-71 “Blackbird” remains the fastest air-breathing, manned aircraft in the world. Designed by Lockheed engineers assigned to the Advanced Development Program under the leadership of Kelly Johnson, one of the twentieth century’s most inspired aircraft designers, the SR-71 filled a desperate need for reliable strategic reconnaissance during the Cold War. The Blackbird’s unique design evolved from the challenges of meeting the goal of operating beyond the range of interception in both speed and altitude. In 1976, more than ten years after its first flight the SR-71 set two world records for its class with a speed of 2,193,167 mph and an altitude of 85,068.997 feet.

Next stop on our tour:
March Field Air Museum
The story of the Planes of Fame Air Museum (borrowed from their website) is the story of one man’s vision.

Fred Maloney knew that protecting our aviation history was important. At a time when very few shared his foresight, he understood the need to preserve, inspire, educate, and honor the legacy of what was then an industry less than half a century old. Today, his vision is reflected in the extensive collection of the Planes of Fame Air Museum, comprising aircraft and artifacts that might have been lost forever. His vision lives in the roar and thunder of rare warbirds flying overhead to the delight of millions. Moreover, his vision perseveres through the efforts of our volunteers and staff to make the experience of each visitor to the Museum unique and memorable.

The Planes of Fame Air Museum collection now numbers close to 160 aircraft. The majority of these are maintained in pristine condition and are on display throughout the Museum. At the heart of the collection are the warbirds of the Second World War. These include aircraft from all sides of the battlefield. We enter the jet age with examples from the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and several important test aircraft of the period.

Friday, October 20, 2023 tour:
Board at 8:45am–depart at 9:00am Tour is all-inclusive: admission and LUNCH!
Palm Springs Air Museum
The Palm Springs Air Museum is a living history museum dedicated to educating the public about the role Air Power played in preserving American liberties and way of life. The Museum preserves, exhibits, and flies aircraft from World War Two, Korean War, Vietnam War and the Global War on Terror. A good portion of the aircraft in the collection are in flyable condition.

In addition to flyable and static aircraft, the Museum uses permanent and temporary exhibits, related artifacts, artwork, and library sources to perpetuate American History. Many of their docents are veterans and are willing to share their experiences and sacrifices for the education of future generations.

Saturday, October 21, 2023 Board at 10:45am–depart 11:00am Enjoy lunch on your own!
L. A. Farmer’s Market & Hollywood Highlights
Fred Beck & Roger Dahljelmen wanted to build a “Village” at the corner of 3rd & Fairfax where local farmers could sell their fresh fare. E.B. Gilmore agreed to give it a go. In July 1934, a dozen farmers and a few other merchants parked their trucks at the corner of 3rd & Fairfax and sold their fresh produce from the back of the trucks.

After lunch and shopping you will re-board your bus for a driving tour of Hollywood. You’ll also have an opportunity to see the stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in front of Grauman’s Chinese Theatre. Great stop for photos!