

# Scenic Drives of New River Gorge National Park and Preserve

This map highlights several park features that you can drive to from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (open year-round). Travel these routes to explore area scenery and discover the park's rich natural and cultural resources. Some of these routes are small, not recommended for RVs or trailers.



Learn more about this National Park Service site at www.nps.gov/neri.

Scan this QR code to visit the park website.



#### Nuttallburg (bottom - historic townsite and coal processing area)

Driving Time and Distance: 40 minutes from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (11 miles)

Explore this once-booming coal mine town on a walk through this historic site. Short trails and outdoor exhibits pass by remains of historic structures like the tipple, conveyer, and coke ovens.

**Directions:** Take Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82) off US 19 north of the Canyon Rim Visitor Center. Travel 6 miles to Winona. Turn right onto Keeneys Creek Road (85/2). Travel 4 miles to the parking lot; accessible parking is 0.1 miles beyond this lot. GPS coordinates are 81.03976° W, 38.05019° N. CAUTION: These are narrow, winding roads, not recommended for RVs or trailers.



### **Thurmond Historic District**

**Driving Time and Distance:** 30 minutes from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (17 miles)

Explore this once-booming railroad town on a short walk through this historic district. Outdoor exhibits and walking tour brochure tell the story of this place. Depot museum open in summer. CAUTION: The train track is an active railroad line and private property; KEEP OFF THE TRACKS.

**Directions:** Take US 19 south for 13 miles to Glen Jean exit. Follow the signs to Thurmond, 7.0 miles down WV 25. WV 25 is a narrow, winding road and is not recommended for RVs or trailers. Drive over the bridge and park in the visitor center parking lot. GPS coordinates are 81.07879° W, 37.95712° N. **CAUTION:** WV 25 is a narrow, winding road, not recommended for RVs or trailers.



### Grandview

**Driving Time and Distance:** 50 minutes from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (41 miles)

See grand views at Grandview, some of the highest vistas in the park. Rhododendron blooms in mid-May and autumn leaves in October add to the landscape's character. Enjoy trails, a picnic, a summer visitor center, and summer evening performances by Theatre West Virginia here.

**Directions:** Take I-64 east to Grandview exit 129 B. Turn right and follow WV 9 north 6 miles to Grandview. The road dead-ends in the park. GPS coordinates are 81.06312° W, 37.83017° N.



## **Sandstone Visitor Center**

**Driving Time and Distance:** 1.0 hour from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (48 miles)

A large inlaid floor map, film, park store, and native-plant landscape are featured of Sandstone Visitor Center (open seasonally). Museum with interactive exhibits interpret the rich resources of the watershed and describe ways individuals can lessen their impacts on the environment.

**Directions:** Take I-64 east to exit 139 at Sandstone. Turn right onto WV 20 north. The visitor center is open seasonally. GPS coordinates are 80.89778° W, 37.78320° N.



## Sandstone Falls

Driving Time and Distance: 1.45 hours from Canyon Rim Visitor Center (65 miles)

See the largest waterfall on the New River from a fully accessible boardwalk with observation decks. The Island Loop Trail (0.5 miles) extends off the boardwalk. A high overlook of Sandstone Fall is on WV 20.

**Directions:** Take Sandstone exit 139 off I-64. Travel south on WV 20 for 10.8 miles to Hinton. Follow WV 20 south through town. Cross the New River on WV 20, then turn right onto WV 26 (River Road). Travel 8.5 miles to Sandstone Falls. GPS coordinates are 80.90582° W, 37.75913° N.

New River Gorge National Park and Preserve

# **Fayette Station Road Tour**

**Driving Time:** 45 minutes **Distance:** 8 miles

This road is unsuitable for RVs or trailers due to several sharp, hairpin turns and a low-clearance bridge.

Directions: Follow 82

1 Turn left out of either visitor center parking lot exit onto Fayette Mine Road. Return to US 19.

2 Turn right onto US 19 north. Travel 0.25 miles.

Turn right onto Lansing-Edmond Road (CO 5/82). Travel 0.25 miles.

4 Turn right onto Fayette Station Road.

5 IMMEDIATELY bear left at the fork to stay on Fayette Station Road. Do not turn onto Lansing Loop Road.

6 Stay on Fayette Station Road. This road starts as a small, two-way traffic route, then becomes a mostly one-way traffic route. Look for pull-offs with exhibits along this road (see map).

Parking at New River: Cross the bridge over New River at the bottom of the gorge, then travel 0.1 miles to the public parking lot on the right. If this lot is full, continue on Fayette Station Road another 0.1 miles to the overflow parking area to the right just past Wolf Creek.

## **History of Fayette Station Road**

Fayette Station Road was the main travel route for vehicles in this area for nearly 100 years, winding from the top of the gorge to the river and back. This gorge was a busy industrial center for almost 80 years, a boom time that was ushered in by the 1873 completion of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. Over 100 busy coal and railroad towns once dotted the landscape.

Two towns flanked the New River here, Fayette and South Fayette. A vehicle bridge connected these two communities in 1889. Coal was mined, and trains constantly ran during this industrial boom that slowed by the 1960s. This bridge was closed and condemned after the completion of the New River Gorge Bridge in 1977. A replica of the original bridge opened in 1998, now part of this scenic drive along this historic route.



