

Discover the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area

Maps and itineraries to a unique natural, cultural and historical landscape

Railroads • Museums • Wildlife • Festivals • Living History • Outdoor Recreation • Arts



A MEMBER OF THE

**National Heritage
Area System**

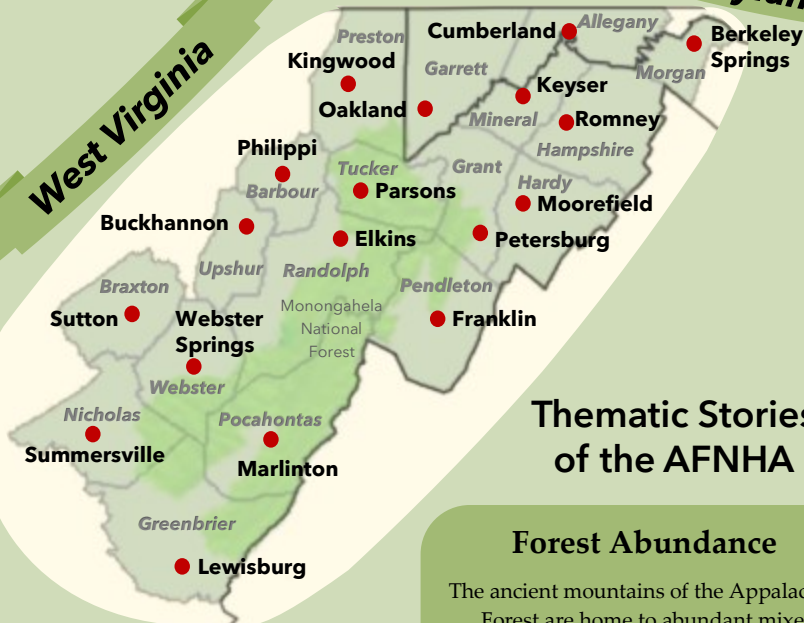
Your Discovery Guide to the



The **Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area** is a distinctive region rich in history, culture, and natural beauty. Spanning 18 counties across West Virginia and Maryland, it surrounds the Monongahela National Forest and lies within the Allegheny range of the Appalachian Mountains. Our mission is to conserve, interpret, and protect this forest heritage—strengthening both the landscapes and communities that define this remarkable region

West Virginia

Maryland



Thematic Stories of the AFNHA

Forest Abundance

The ancient mountains of the Appalachian Forest are home to abundant mixed hardwood and red spruce forests. Here, unique mountain microclimates foster the convergence of northern and southern species, creating one of the most biodiverse forest ecosystems in North America.

Crucible of Isolation

People from many cultures came together in the Appalachian Forest, where geographic isolation and the rough mountain terrain fostered a unique Appalachian identity. This culture, built on self-reliance and a deep bond to the land, is preserved and passed down through rich folk-ways and living traditions that enrich American life today.

Resilient Forest

The recovery of the landscape after the logging boom reflects the resilience of the Appalachian Forest. Today, scientific forest management helps conserve these lands for a range of purposes—including ecological stewardship, recreation and tourism, and the sustainable harvest of forest products.

Logging Boom Builds the Nation

At the dawn of the 20th century, the expansion of railroads triggered a massive logging boom in the Appalachian Forest. This harvest fueled industrial growth across the Eastern United States, but it came at a steep cost—devastating the landscape and transforming the region's mountain economies.

* **Note**
Site hours may differ, be sure to confirm them
before visiting

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LOGGING BOOM BUILDS THE NATION

Industry and

C&O Canal National Historic Park - Cumberland Visitor's Center

Cumberland, Allegany, MD

In the race to reach the Ohio River and open westward trade routes, the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal competed with the railroad. The canal carried timber and coal from the Allegheny range towards Washington, DC. Today, the Visitor Center and Museum offer engaging exhibits on the canal's construction and the daily life of those who worked along its route. The historic building also serves as the depot for the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad.

9:00AM - 4:00PM, Wednesday - Sunday



Thrasher Carriage Museum

Frostburg, Allegany, MD

Located at the western terminus of the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad, this rare collection showcases the early days of American transportation. The museum features an array of horse-drawn vehicles, from humble milkman carts to elegant presidential coaches.

May - Oct, 12:00PM - 3:00PM, Thursday - Sunday



Oakland B&O Museum

Oakland, Garrett, MD

Housed in a historic depot, the Oakland B&O Museum features the history of the nation's first—and one of its most influential—railroads. The Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad linked Baltimore to the western frontier, playing a pivotal role in the expansion, industrialization, and economic development of America.

10:00AM - 3:00PM, Monday - Sunday



Arthurdale Heritage

Arthurdale, Preston, WV

When the Great Depression gripped the nation, Arthurdale emerged as a bold New Deal experiment. Designed as a homestead community for mining families, residents farmed, worked, and lived cooperatively. Today, visitors can explore the museum, tour the preserved National Historic District, and engage in workshops and events that keep the enduring spirit of Arthurdale alive.

May - Oct: 10:00AM - 3:00PM, Monday - Saturday

Nov - April: 10:00AM - 3:00PM, Monday - Friday



Transportation



Woodchopping and Timber Heritage Museum

Webster Springs, Webster, WV

This museum celebrates the rich history and legacy of woodchopping in Webster County. Built off the timber industry, the county remains a proud center for logging heritage and the rising popularity of timber sports.

8:00AM - 4:00PM, Monday - Friday



Cass Scenic Railroad State Park

Cass, Pocahontas, WV

Once a bustling company town for West Virginia Pulp and Paper, Cass is now a state park where history comes alive. The original Company Store contains a historical theater and museum, a train-themed restaurant, and an artisans co-op. Visitors can explore the preserved town, stay overnight in Company Houses, and hop aboard excursions operated by the Durbin and Greenbrier Valley Railroad.

Visitor Center & Museum: May - Oct: 9:00AM - 5:00PM,
Wednesday - Sunday

Company Store open year round, see website for hours



The Darden Mill

Elkins, Randolph, WV

Inside this historic grain mill lies two museums, the **West Virginia Railroad Museum** and the **Appalachian Forest Discovery Center**. Learn about the rich history of railroading in West Virginia and find rotating exhibits on the Appalachian Forest's natural and cultural heritage. From Elkins you can journey through the mountains on the Durbin and Greenbrier Valley Railroad.

May - Oct: 9:30AM - 4:30PM, Thursday - Sunday

SCENIC RAILROADS IN THE AFNHA

**Durbin and Greenbrier
Valley Railroad**

📍 **Elkins & Cass, WV**

**Potomac Eagle
Scenic Railroad**

📍 **Romney, WV**

**Western Maryland
Scenic Railroad**

📍 **Cumberland, MD**



Stories of the Forest

Cranberry Mountain Nature Center

Hillsboro, Pocahontas, WV

At the entrance to the unique Cranberry Glades Botanical Area, this Monongahela National Forest visitor center offers engaging exhibits, a variety of programming, a native plant garden, and an interpretive trail. Venture deeper into the rare ecosystems of the Cranberry Glades.

Mid April - mid Oct: 9:00AM - 4:30PM, Thursday - Saturday;
9:00AM - 4:00PM, Sunday; 9:00PM - 4:30PM, Monday



Watoga State Park

Marlinton, Pocahontas, WV

In West Virginia's largest state park, visitors can discover a forest once nurtured by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Learn about their tireless work at the CCC museum. Visit the Nature Center, which provides interpretive programs and activities as well as Dark Sky backpacks for overnight campers who plan on stargazing in this official Dark Sky Park.

Call 304-799-4087 for hours of the CCC Museum and Nature Center

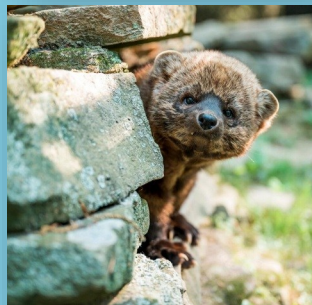


West Virginia Wildlife Center

French Creek, Upshur, WV

Encounter West Virginia's native wildlife in one place—from bears to otters to eagles and elks. Run by the state's Division of Natural Resources, the center also features an ADA-accessible interpretive trail through native habitats.

April - Oct: 9:00AM - 5:00PM; Nov - March, 9:00AM - 3:00PM



Seneca Rocks Discovery Center

Seneca Rocks, Pendleton, WV

Nestled at the base of one the most iconic formations in West Virginia, the Discovery Center features exhibits on wildlife, rock climbing, and Indigenous connections to the land. Visit the historic Sites Homestead and heritage garden and enjoy a range of programming, from river snorkeling to traditional crafting.

See the US Forest Service website for Discovery Center and Sites Homestead hours





Blackwater Canyon Trail

Thomas, Tucker, WV

Beginning in the former company town of Coketon, this historic trail passes beehive coke ovens and historic signage. Explore stories of coal, railroads, and resilient mountain communities as you journey to Douglas Falls.



Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Davis, Tucker, WV

As the 500th National Wildlife Refuge, Canaan Valley protects a rare high-altitude wetland and boreal forest. The Visitor Center showcases the valley's biodiversity and offers programs for all ages.

Visitor Center hours: 10:00AM—4:00PM, Wednesday—Sunday



Lost River State Park

Mathias, Hardy, WV

Built by the Civilian Conservation Corps, Lost River State Park is rich in New Deal-era history. Explore preserved structures like the c.1820 Lee Cabin—now a museum showcasing early settlement life—or unwind at the Lee Sulphur Springs pavilion. With miles of hiking and biking trails, the park offers a perfect blend of history, nature, and recreation.

Call 304-897-5372 for Lee Cabin hours



Evergreen Heritage Center

Mt. Savage, Allegany, MD

Dating back to the 1780s, Evergreen Heritage Center has evolved from forest to farm to coal mine. Today, it serves as a dynamic learning landscape featuring museums, interpretive trails, a nature center, and a thriving forest garden. With hands-on events for all ages, Evergreen brings centuries of stewardship to life.

May - Oct, by appointment



Potomac-Garrett State Forest

Oakland, Garrett, MD

Known as the birthplace of forestry in Maryland, Potomac-Garrett spans over 19,000 acres of multi-use forest. Explore the Kindness Demonstration Area—a 1.25 mile interpretive trail featuring educational signage about forest and wildlife management.



Landmarks of



Seneca Rocks

Seneca Rocks, Pendleton, WV

An iconic jagged ridge rising among the forest, Seneca Rocks is a striking quartzite formation and a haven for wildlife—keep an eye out for bald eagles and cottontail rabbits. Learn about the site and its heritage at the **Seneca Rocks Discovery Center**.

Spruce Knob

Riverton, Pendleton, WV

Standing as the highest point in West Virginia and the Allegheny Range, Spruce Knob offers sweeping 360° views of forested ridges and valleys. Hike among red spruce and blueberry bushes and look for ruffed grouse along the way.



Cathedral State Park

Aurora, Preston, WV

A designated National Natural Landmark, Cathedral State Park holds the state's largest old-growth forest. Over 100 acres of towering hemlock trees offer a rare glimpse into the Appalachian Forest before widespread logging. Enjoy a peaceful walk through this timeless woodland sanctuary.

Swallow Falls State Park

Oakland, Garrett, MD

Home to Maryland's highest waterfall, Swallow Falls State Park boasts dramatic sights and a serene old-growth forest. The mature woods are ideal for spotting wildlife including blackburnian warblers and the Appalachian tiger swallowtail butterfly.



THE Forest



Dolly Sods Wilderness Area

Grant, Randolph, and Tucker Counties, WV

A striking mosaic of mountaintop meadows, wind-swept plains, and ancient bogs, Dolly Sods is one of the southernmost habitats for cold-climate species. Hike through huckleberry fields and hardwood forests filled with songbirds and take in otherworldly panoramas.



Blackwater Falls State Park

Davis, Tucker, WV

One of West Virginia's most photographed destinations, Blackwater Falls State Park features the iconic tea-colored waterfall—stained by spruce and hemlock needles—and scenic vistas of Blackwater Canyon. Look for rare wildlife like the nocturnal northern flying squirrel and unique salamander species.



Cranberry Glades Botanical Area

Hillsboro, Pocahontas, WV

Step into a rare, boreal ecosystem dating back 12,000 years. These high elevation peat bogs support carnivorous plants, vibrant wildflowers, and fluttering butterflies. Stroll the ADA-accessible boardwalk or visit the **Cranberry Mountain Nature Center** to learn more about the glades' unique ecology.



Greenbrier River Trail

Greenbrier and Pocahontas Counties, WV

Follow this 78-mile scenic trail along a former railroad corridor beside the Greenbrier River. Stretching from Lewisburg to the Cass Scenic Railroad State Park, it's one of the best long-distance hiking and biking trails in the country. Be on the lookout for river otters, black bears, and other wildlife as you travel the Greenbrier.





Appalachian Arts



Carnegie Hall

Lewisburg, Greenbrier, WV

One of only four Carnegie Halls in the world, this historic venue hosts a wide variety of performances, lectures, and arts events year-round. Explore galleries celebrating Appalachian artists and learn about the building's unique legacy.

Galleries and Box Office: 10:00AM - 4:00PM, Monday - Friday



Jerry Run Summer Theater

Cleveland, Webster, WV

Tucked in a beautiful forested setting, this rustic acoustic venue offers a summer concert series of Appalachian music, featuring both local and regional performers.

May - Oct



Pocahontas County Artisan Co-op

Marlinton, Pocahontas, WV

Located in a historic C&O Railroad depot, this year-round gallery showcases the creative work of more than fifty local artisans.

Explore pottery, textiles, woodworking, painting, and more—all handcrafted in Pocahontas County.

10:00AM - 5:00PM, Tuesday - Saturday



Wardensville Garden Market

Wardensville, Hardy, WV

At the on-farm market of Farm Works Wonders find local produce from **Lewis Farm** and goods from all their partner businesses. Relish in the farm to table delicacies of **Mack's Bingo Bakery** and the nearby **Mack's Bingo Café**. Down the road, **Dakota Glass Works** hosts live glassblowing shows and an in-house gallery.

8:00AM - 8:00PM, Thursday - Monday

and Delicacies

Swiss Roots

Helvetia, Randolph WV

Celebrating the heritage of this unique mountain village settled by Swiss-German immigrants in 1869, Swiss Roots is housed in a historic inn and functions as a country store, post office, and the **Fasnacht Mask Museum**. Browse paper-mâché masks, local crafts, and Swiss-style cheese. For an authentic Alpine meal, visit the nearby Hutte Restaurant.

10:00AM – 6:00PM, Wednesday - Saturday



The Purple Fiddle

Thomas, Tucker, WV

A beloved hotspot for Appalachian roots music and more, The Purple Fiddle draws acclaimed performers from near and far. Set in the historic DePollo store, once operated by an Italian immigrant and coal miner, it now features a café, local brews, and homemade ice cream.

11:00AM - 8:00PM, Wednesday - Sunday



MAC Ice House

Berkeley Springs, Morgan, WV

In Berkeley Springs—known to be one of America's top small art towns—the Ice House is a hub for creativity. They host a Co-Op Gallery, performance space, and rotating exhibits, highlighting the work of regional artisans.

11:00AM - 5:00PM

Jan - Feb: Saturday - Sunday; March - May: Friday - Sunday;

June - Dec: Thursday - Sunday



Spruce Forest Artisan Village

Grantsville, Garrett, MD

This charming artisan village blends creativity and heritage in a rustic setting. Meet working artists in the restored log cabins of Amish and Mennonite settlers, visit the House of Yoder Museum, and tour the historic Stanton Mill, still grinding flours and mixes sold at the adjacent **Penn Alps Restaurant & Craft Shop**.

May - Oct: 11:00AM - 4:00PM, Monday - Thursday;

10:00AM - 5:00PM, Friday - Saturday





Outdoor Recreation

IN THE AFNHA

1 Coopers Rock State Forest

Bruceton Mills, Preston, WV



2 Allegheny Trail

Across West Virginia



3 Cranesville Swamp Preserve

Terra Alta, Preston, WV



4 Swallow Falls State Park

Oakland, Garrett, MD



5 New Germany State Park

Grantsville, Garrett, MD



6 Finzel Swamp Preserve

Frostburg, Allegany, MD



7 C&O Canal Towpath and the Great Allegheny Passage

Cumberland, Allegany, MD



8 Potomac-Garrett State Forest

Oakland, Garrett, MD



9 Barnum Whitewater Area

Piedmont, Mineral, WV



10 Cacapon Resort State Park

Berkeley Springs, Morgan, WV



11 Audra State Park

Buckhannon, Upshur, WV



12 Nathaniel Mountain Wildlife Management Area

Romney, Hampshire, WV



13 Blackwater Falls State Park

Davis, Tucker, WV



14 Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Davis, Tucker, WV



KEY



Hiking



Snow Sports



Swimming



Camping



Biking



Boating



Fishing



Skywatching



Caving



Mountain Biking



Rafting



Climbing



Wildlife Viewing



Hunting

15 Dolly Sods Wilderness Area Tucker, Randolph and Grant, WV



16 Smoke Hole Caverns Cabins, Grant, WV



17 Seneca Rocks Seneca Rocks, Pendleton, WV



18 North Fork Mountain Riverton, Pendleton, WV



19 Seneca Caverns Riverton, Pendleton, WV



20 Elk River Trail Sutton, Braxton, WV



21 Sutton Lake Sutton, Braxton, WV



22 Holly River State Park Hacker Valley, Webster, WV



23 Kumbrabow State Forest Huttonsville, Randolph, WV



24 Gauley River National Recreation Area Summersville, Nicholas, WV



25 Summersville Lake State Park Summersville, Nicholas, WV



26 Cranberry Glades Botanical Area Hillsboro, Pocahontas, WV



27 Green Bank Observatory Green Bank, Pocahontas, WV



28 Watoga State Park Marlinton, Pocahontas, WV



29 Lost World Caverns Lewisburg, Greenbrier, WV



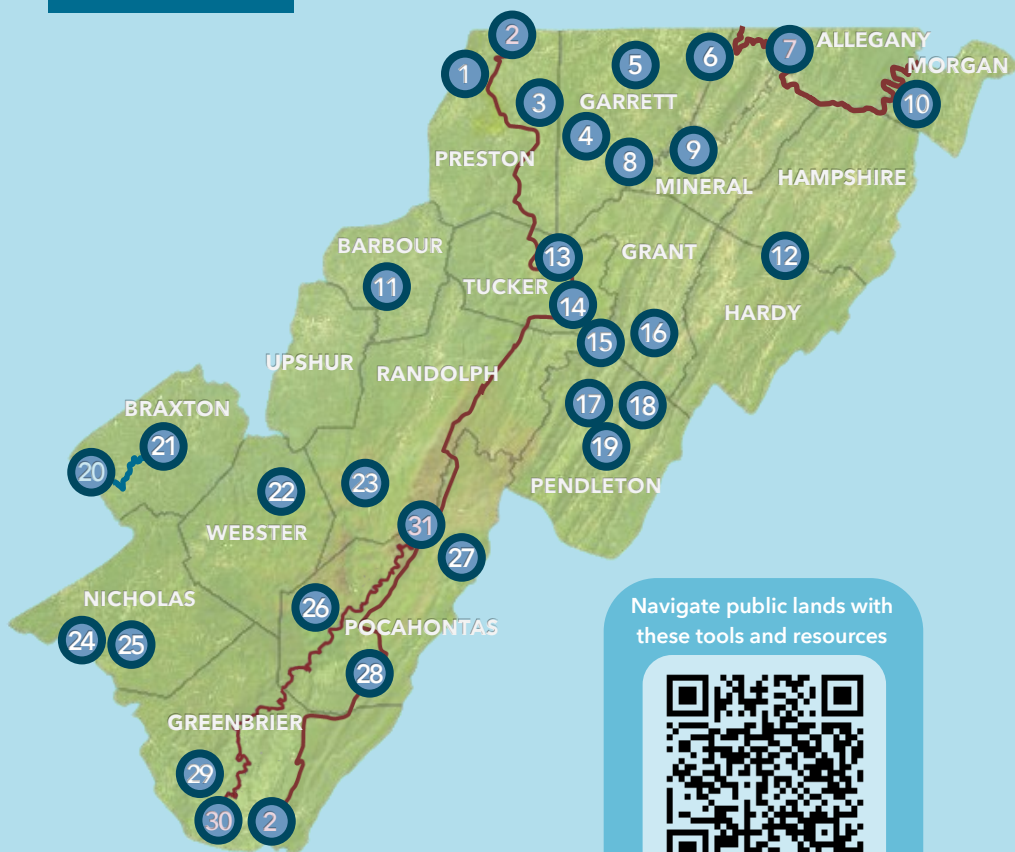
30 Greenbrier River Trail Greenbrier and Pocahontas, WV



Outdoor Recreation in the AFNHA

See page 9

For the listed
sites



Navigate public lands with
these tools and resources



Travel Notes:

Road Trips

KEY

-  The Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike
(US-250, CR-151, US-33)
-  The National Road (US Alt 40)
-  The Seneca Trail & Seneca Skyway
(US-219, WV-92, WV-28, US-33,
WV-32)
-  Highlands Scenic Highway (WV-39,
WV-150)



See page 13

For the road
trip itineraries

Travel Notes:

Road Trips



Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike

US-250, CR-151, US-33



This National Scenic Byway was first constructed as a stagecoach road to the Ohio River. The battles to control this strategic route during the Civil War paved the way for the statehood of West Virginia.

Bartow

Visit the site of the Civil War **Camp Bartow** and view **Traveller's Repose**, a stagecoach inn.



Beverly Heritage Center

Beverly

At the **Beverly Heritage Center** learn about the turnpike's history. Head down Rich Mountain Road to find the **Rich Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site**.

Buckhannon

The **History Center Museum** was once used as a Union commissary. The route continues west to **Parkersburg**.



National Road

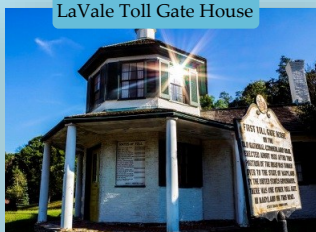


US Alt 40

Travel America's First Highway. Construction began in Cumberland in 1811, shaping the expansion of settlement and commerce into America's west.

Cumberland

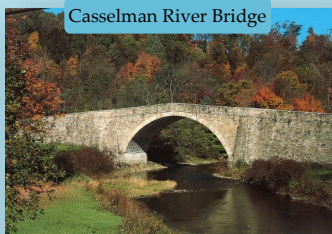
The National Road is joined by historic canals and scenic railroads. Leaving Cumberland, pass by a c. 1835 **Toll Gate House**, open by appointment.



LaVale Toll Gate House

Grantsville

The **Casselman River Bridge** was built for the National Road and was once the "largest stone arch in America." Nearby is the rustic **Spruce Forest Artisan Village**.



Casselman River Bridge

**Seneca Trail**

US-219



This historic trail, traveled by bison, the Haudenosaunee, and other Indigenous tribes winds through unique towns and the encompassing forest. Discover the stories of route 219 on Traveling219.org

Oakland

Explore endless recreation at **Deep Creek Lake State Park**, then visit Oakland, a small but storied town.

Thomas and Davis

An unmissable duo of artsy towns near **Blackwater Falls State Park**.

Elkins

A historic city with a scenic railroad and the **Appalachian Forest Discovery Center**

Marlinton

An entry point for many Monongahela National Forest adventures.



Lewisburg, WV

Lewisburg

Indulge in its top-rated food and arts scene.

Head up WV-92 to complete the **Seneca Skyway**

White Sulphur Springs

Find mineral spas and underground bunkers

Green Bank Telescope

**Green Bank**

A radio-silent town with the **Green Bank Telescope** for the most sublime stargazing

Seneca Rocks

A remarkable sandstone landmark and a **National Forest Discovery Center**

**Highland Scenic Highway**

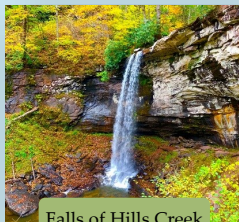
WV-39, WV-150

This National Scenic Byway takes you deep into the Monongahela National Forest and its natural treasures.

Not maintained in the winter

Richwood

Pass through hardwood forest and a series of waterfalls leading to the **Falls of Hills Creek**.



Falls of Hills Creek

Hillsboro

Explore a biodiverse bogland at the **Cranberry Mountain Nature Center**. Further on, marvel at scenic overlooks of the **Cranberry Wilderness**.

Local Museum,

Allegany Museum

Cumberland, Allegany, MD

Renowned as one of USA Today's top-rated Small Town Museums, the Allegany Museum explores the region's rich heritage. All roads once led through Cumberland, from the first national highway to meandering canals and booming railroads.

**April - Dec: 11:00AM - 5:00PM, Wednesday - Saturday;
1:00PM - 5:00PM, Sunday**



Museum of the Berkeley Springs

Berkeley Springs, Morgan, WV

On the second floor of the operational 1815 Roman Bath House, this museum highlights the legacy of a mineral spring that once drew visitors like George Washington. The Museum also serves as an interpretive center for the Washington Heritage Trail. Explore local geology, indigenous artifacts, and the town's evolution.

11:00AM - 4:00PM

**Memorial Day - Labor Day : Thursday - Tuesday;
Labor Day - Thanksgiving, Friday - Monday;
Thanksgiving - Memorial Day, Saturday - Sunday**



Ashby's Fort Museum

Fort Ashby, Mineral, WV

Commissioned by George Washington during the French and Indian War, this fort once stood on the edge of a thin frontier into Indigenous lands. Learn the story of Fort Ashby and catch special events and reenactments that bring its history to life.

**March - Oct: 10:00AM - 4:00PM, Thursday- Saturday;
12:00PM - 4:00PM, Sunday; 10:00AM - 4:00PM, Monday**



Barbour County Historical Museum

Philippi, Barbour, WV

Housed in a former B&O railroad depot, the museum covers local history from early agriculture through industrial development. Philippi, the site of the first land battle of the Civil War, is central to its story, with exhibits and town landmarks commemorating the event.

Jan- Nov, 11:00AM - 4:00PM, Thursday-Saturday



Regional Heritage



Beverly Heritage Center

Beverly, Randolph, WV

Four restored buildings in historic Beverly tell the story of the first settlement of Randolph County. This former seat of local power lies along historic thoroughways. Witness the town's heyday, the first campaign of the Civil War, and a ruthless power struggle between Beverly and the neighboring boom town of Elkins.

10:00AM - 5:00PM, Tuesday - Sunday



Flatwoods Monster Museum

Sutton, Braxton, WV

Dive into the eerie legend of the Flatwoods Monster, a cryptid first sighted in 1952 that is now a local icon. This quirky and fun museum doubles as Braxton County's visitor center and features memorabilia, history, and local culture.

9:00AM - 4:00PM, Tuesday - Friday,

10:00AM - 4:00PM, Saturday - Sunday



Old Main Arts and Heritage Center

Summersville, Nicholas, WV

Set in a historic high school building, this community-run center illustrates the stories of Nicholas County. Dive into exhibits on early settlement, life during the Great Depression, military service, and industrial heritage.

Call 304-872-3437 to schedule a tour

9:00AM - 5:00PM, Monday - Friday; 9:00AM - 12:00PM, Saturday



North House Museum

Lewisburg, Greenbrier, WV

This 1820 home-turned-museum highlights the history of Greenbrier Valley. Learn about the county's pioneer era, its role in the Civil War, and the lives of local residents through well-curated artifacts and guided tours.

10:00AM - 4:00PM, Tuesday, Thursday - Saturday

Featured Festivals

March



Fasnacht

Helvetia, Randolph, WV

Bid farewell to winter in this unique Swiss-Appalachian village. Celebrate with colorful papier-mâché masks, live music, square dancing, festive foods, and the symbolic burning of Old Man Winter.

April



Feast of the Ramson

Richwood, Nicholas, WV

Join the celebration of ramps—wild onions—foraged fresh from the forest. Savor traditional Appalachian ramp dishes and browse local crafts in the “Ramp Capital of the World.”

May



Woodchopping Festival

Webster Springs, Webster, WV

Every Memorial Day weekend, elite competitors from around the globe gather for the Southern U.S. World Championship Woodchopping Contest. Enjoy timber sports, family fun, and a tribute to the region’s deep lumber heritage.

June



Blue and Gray Reunion

Philippi, Barbour, WV

Relive history where the first land battle of the Civil War took place. Experience reenactments, walking tours, heritage exhibits, craft shows and live music for a four-day celebration of local history.

July



New Deal Festival

Arthurdale, Preston, WV

Explore life in a 1930s New Deal homestead community. This enriching festival features heritage demonstrations, crafts, car shows, live music and historic displays in Arthurdale’s preserved village.



Hampshire County Farm Crawl

Hampshire County, WV

Voted one of WV Living’s Best Regional Events, this self-guided tour invites visitors to explore local farms, meet farmers, pick produce, and learn about sustainable agriculture in a hands-on environment.

August



Pickin' in Parsons

Parsons, Tucker, WV

This bluegrass festival draws top performers for a week of toe-tapping tunes, jam sessions, and outdoor fun. Set at the Five River Campground, find an inviting musical community along the scenic Shavers Fork.

September



Heritage Days Festival

Cumberland, Allegany, MD

Step into history with French and Indian War reenactments at Fort Cumberland, Underground Railroad tunnel tours, and Whiskey Rebellion tributes. Washington Street transforms with crafts, distillery tastings, games, and family fun.



American Whitewater's Gauley Fest

Summersville, Nicholas, WV

Join the world's largest whitewater paddling festival! Support river conservation while enjoying outdoor gear expos, live music, and thrilling rapids on the Gauley River.

October



Mountain State Forest Festival

Elkins, Randolph, WV

One of West Virginia's oldest and largest festivals, this weeklong celebration fills the town of Elkins with parades, carnivals, heritage arts, music, timber sports, and fall festivities.



Autumn Glory Festival

Oakland, Garrett, MD

Celebrate peak fall foliage in one of America's top-rated autumn destinations. Enjoy antique car shows, parades, local produce, artisans, and colorful vistas on a scenic driving tour through the mountains of Maryland.



Apple Butter Festival

Berkeley Springs, Morgan, WV

The scent of slow-cooked apple butter fills the air during this sweet extravaganza. Enjoy baking contests, hog calling, a beer garden, duck races, a beard contest, and a lot of Appalachian charm.



Fasnacht



Woodchopping Festival



Pickin' in Parsons



Gauley Fest

Warfare and Frontiers



The Civil War



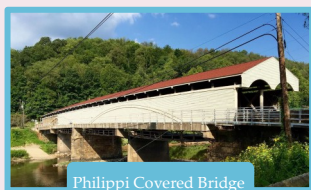
Fierce combat over crucial turnpikes and railroads and the fate of West Virginia itself

The First Campaign, June 1861-December 1861

Philippi, WV June 1861

Union General George McClellan orders troops to Philippi to defend the vital B&O Railroad. Union forces rout the Confederates into a retreat dubbed the “Philippi Races.”

Visit the **Barbour County Historical Museum**, housed in a former B&O depot, to view Civil War artifacts. Explore Civil War Trail (CWT) markers throughout the town and the **Philippi Covered Bridge**, which served as Union barracks.



Philippi Covered Bridge

Rich Mountain Battlefield July 1861

*McClellan strikes again, capturing part of the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike at Rich Mountain. Confederates retreat from the nearby **Laurel Hill** and are later defeated at **Corrick's Ford**.*



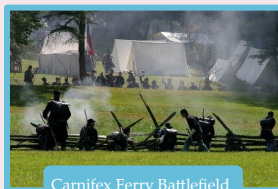
Rich Mountain Battlefield

Tour these key battle sites via interpretive Civil War Trails markers at **Rich Mountain**, **Laurel Hill**, and **Corrick's Ford** near Beverly, Belington, and Parsons respectively. The **Beverly Heritage Center** features immersive exhibits on the Rich Mountain campaign and local Civil War stories.

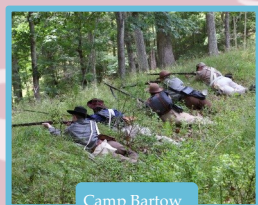
Carnifex Ferry Battlefield September 1861

Union General William Rosencrans drives Confederate forces from Summersville, further weakening their grip on a seceding western Virginia

Visit **Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park** to explore preserved Civil War structures, interpretive trails, and scenic recreation areas.



Carnifex Ferry Battlefield



Camp Bartow

Camp Bartow October 1861

Union troops hold Cheat Summit Fort while Confederates dig in at Camp Bartow and Camp Allegheny further east along the crucial turnpike.

Visit remnants of the Union **Cheat Summit Fort** near Huttonsville and the Confederate **Camp Bartow** and **Camp Allegheny** in Bartow, where interpretive signage offers a glimpse into a time of ferocious warfare.

Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park

In one of the final Civil War battles in West Virginia, Union forces under Brig. Gen. Averell drive the Confederates back into Virginia.

Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park includes cannons, trenches, trails, and a museum interpreting the pivotal battle and its role in securing West Virginia's statehood.



Droop Mountain Battlefield

Romney, Hampshire, WV

This town near the Shenandoah Valley changed hands between opposing armies more than ten times, and some say up to fifty! **Civil War Trails** markers are common in Romney.

Fort Mill Ridge

Built in 1863 by Union troops to defend key transportation routes. Its trench system still stands with interpretive signage detailing the fort's construction and usage.

Taggart Hall

This c. 1790 building houses the **Fort Mill Ridge Civil War Museum**, open by appointment.

Davis House

An eighteenth century log cabin, used for Confederate meetings, can be toured by appointment through the **Hampshire County Public Library**.

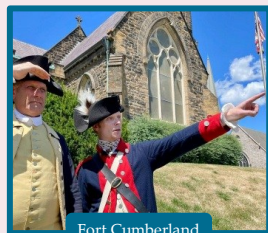
The French and Indian War

When the AFNHA stood on the edges of the British Empire

Fort Cumberland–Cumberland, Allegany, MD

Fort Cumberland was a crucial base in western Maryland. It served as the launching point for General Braddock's unsuccessful 1755 expedition and was later overseen by Colonel George Washington.

Wills Creek Museum and **Emmanuel Episcopal Church** stand on the grounds of Fort Cumberland. They offer tours of the museum and tunnels by appointment.



Fort Cumberland

Ashby's Fort Museum–Fort Ashby, Mineral, WV

Built under orders from Colonel Washington after Braddock's defeat left the British frontier open to attack. Fort Ashby was part of a defensive chain along western Virginia.

Visit the Fort Museum with rotating exhibits, reenactments and events.

March - Oct: 10:00AM - 4:00PM, Thursday- Saturday; 12:00PM - 4:00PM, Sunday; 10:00AM - 4:00PM, Monday

Fort Edwards Museum & Visitor Center–Capon Bridge, Hampshire, WV

Another frontier outpost, Fort Edwards saw action in the Battle of Great Cacapon River where a Native American ambush sent shockwaves of panic through Virginia.

Tour the museum, reconstructed stockades, a hiking trail, and a colonial garden. The fort hosts annual reenactments.

June - Oct: 10:00AM - 5:00PM, Saturday; 1:00PM - 5:00PM, Sunday

Map OF THE AFNHA





Travel Notes:

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