

# Introduction

West Virginia's unique byways and backways offer the motorist a different traveling experience from the sameness encountered along today's major highways. You'll see...

- Dwellings built by 18th Century pioneers when the Appalachians were "the Western Frontier"
- Battlefields memorializing the sacrifices of a war that, in the only state created by the turmoil of the Civil War, was truly "brother against brother"
- Natural panoramas that both please the eye and bring the quiet tranquility of the country back into our consciousness
- Places and personalities from the struggles to reconcile the industrial revolution of the late 19th and early 20th centuries with the ideals of fairness and individual freedom upon which the state of West Virginia was founded



Roads that open all of these things up to the traveler have received a state "Byways" or "Backways" designation. This designation comes through a grass-roots partnership of community leaders, historians, preservationists and local tourism officials - all working toward preserving the scenic, historic, cultural, natural, archaeological and recreational resources of the area, thus providing a sustainable quality of life.



A "Backway" must also provide a rustic back-country experience, be largely unpaved and have access for non-motorized recreational activities. RV usage is not recommended on backways.

The best of these state-designated routes may then aspire to either national designation: National Scenic Byway or All-American Road. West Virginia currently has one All-American Road - the Historic National Road - and four National Scenic Byways - the Highland Scenic Highway, the Coal Heritage Trail, the Midland Trail and the Washington Heritage Trail.

West Virginia's commitment to preserving its rich cultural heritage, scenic beauty, archaeological treasures and recreational opportunities is evident in the promotion of these byways and backways. West Virginians are proud of their heritage, their resources and their communities. This system of transportation enables us to share these qualities with visitors to our state.

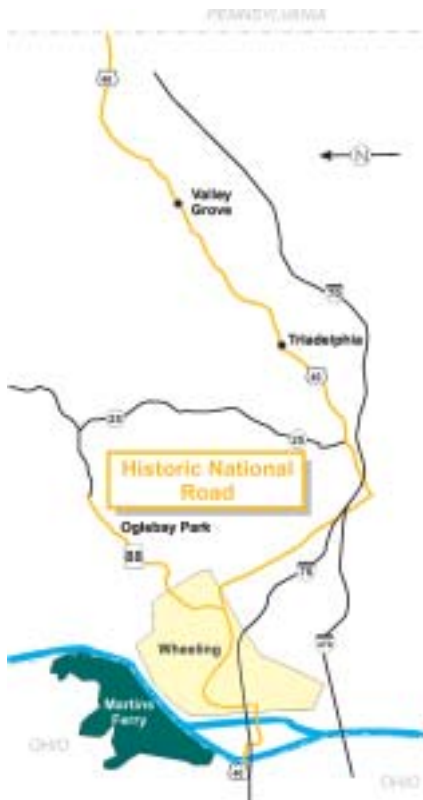


*Photos (top to bottom): General Store in Braxton County, visiting neighbors in West Union, Zenith General Store in Monroe County.*

# All-American Road



# Historic National Road



From the birth of our nation, many sites in history beckon to us across time, and the All-American Road system is an ideal way to access many of these evocative sites. Certainly the Historic National Road is key among them. Dotted along this east-west thoroughfare, stone bridges, beautiful Victorian architecture and numerous museums provide travelers with authentic experiences. In West Virginia, the byway provides travelers with two opportunities to visit National Historic Landmarks, the Wheeling Suspension Bridge, which has carried travelers across the Ohio River since 1849, and the Civil War birthplace of “West Virginia,” West Virginia Independence Hall. By driving the state’s only All-American Road, the traveler can rediscover America and explore a significant chapter of our nation’s culture and history from a new perspective.

The route is easily accessible from Interstate 70. Many visitor services are available and the Wheeling Visitors Center provides information for attractions, restaurants and lodging.

---

**Length:** 16 miles

**Driving Time:** 45 minutes

**Accessibility:** Paved, two-lane highway accessible from I-70.

**Services:** Many visitor services are available

**Special Features:** Wheeling Suspension Bridge

**Date of Designation:** August 1999 (state designation), June 2002 (national designation)

**Contacts:** WV Independence Hall, 304-238-1300; Wheeling Visitors Center 304-233-7709 or 800-828-3097, [www.wheelingcvb.com](http://www.wheelingcvb.com)

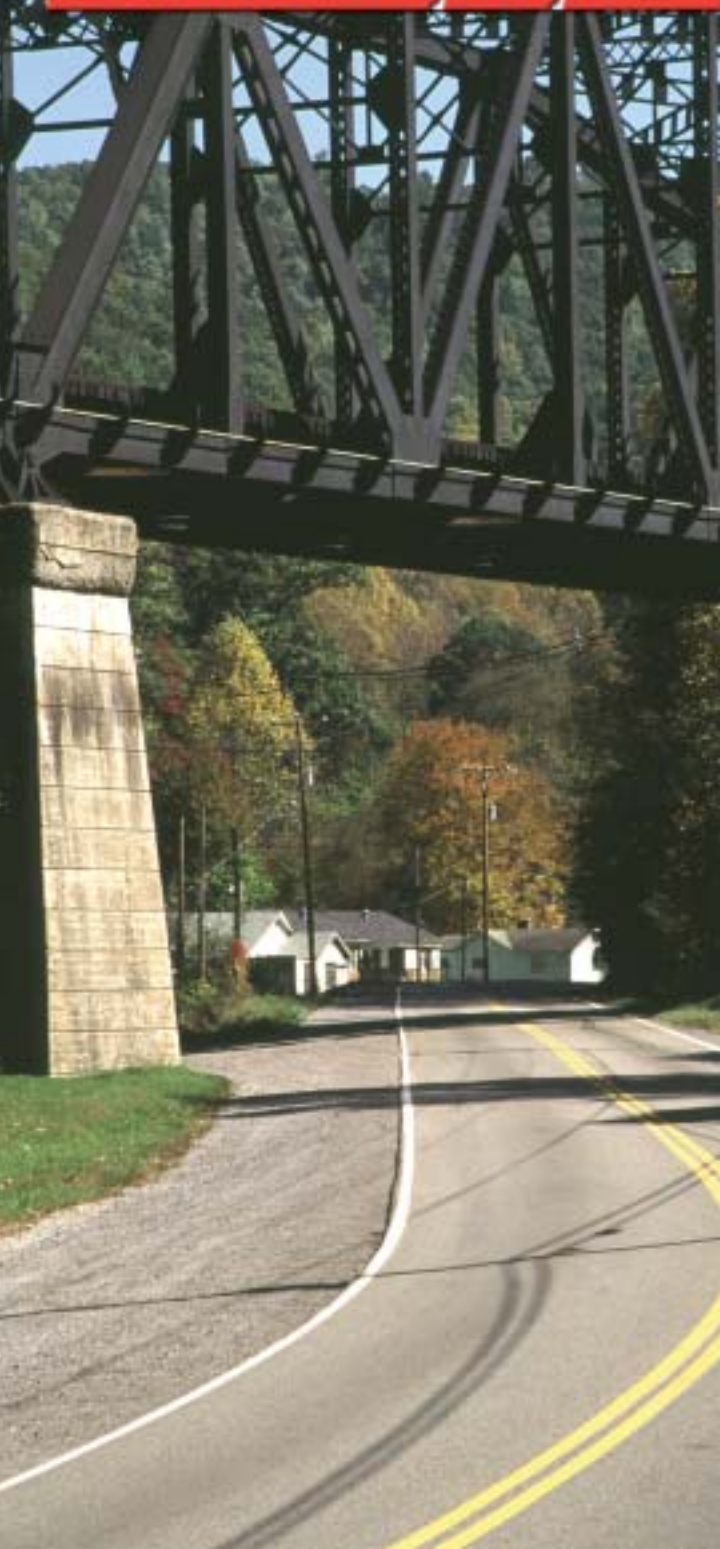
# All-American Road



# Historic National Road



# National Byways



# Coal Heritage Trail



Before coal was discovered in southern West Virginia, few people lived in this heavily forested region. However, as mining developed into an industry, jobs brought people from many lands and all walks of life, and the clean-burning coal extracted from the rugged mountains became the fuel that powered the industrial revolution in our country. The story of the Coal Heritage Trail (CHT) is the story of strong, resilient men and women, of families who spent generations mining coal, of incredible racial and ethnic diversity, of strong, close-knit communities, and of isolation, danger and violence. Transitions in the coal industry have left behind deserted mining sites and remnants of once-thriving company towns alongside the company stores, club houses and courthouses crafted by Italian stone masons. Small commercial districts line the narrow valleys and modest residential areas climb the steep mountains.

Motoring on the CHT you will pass through National Register Historic Districts in the towns of Bluefield, Bramwell, Welch, Mullens and Beckley. And recreation in the region includes whitewater rafting on the New and Bluestone rivers (in season), fishing and hiking, Pinnacle Rock State Park and Twin Falls Resort State Park, which offers a wide range of accommodations and activities including swimming, tennis and golf.

As you travel the CHT, keep in mind that some areas are quite remote with few services, and you will be passing through small towns with frequent speed limit changes. The Coal Heritage Trail crosses rugged mountains and follows the path of streams and rivers and is often narrow and curvy. While the unique terrain invites you to explore what is around the next turn, we ask that you drive safely as you enjoy the culture and history of the region that helped build and fuel America.

---

**Length:** 171.8 miles

**Driving Time:** 4 to 5 hours

**Accessibility:** Curvaceous two-lane state and U.S. highway is well-maintained, however, please use caution and be alert for coal truck traffic.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the route provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Beckley Exhibition Coal Mine, Twin Falls Resort State Park (nearby), Pinnacle Rock State Park, Bramwell Historic District, Eastern Regional Coal Archives (Bluefield), Tamarack (Beckley).

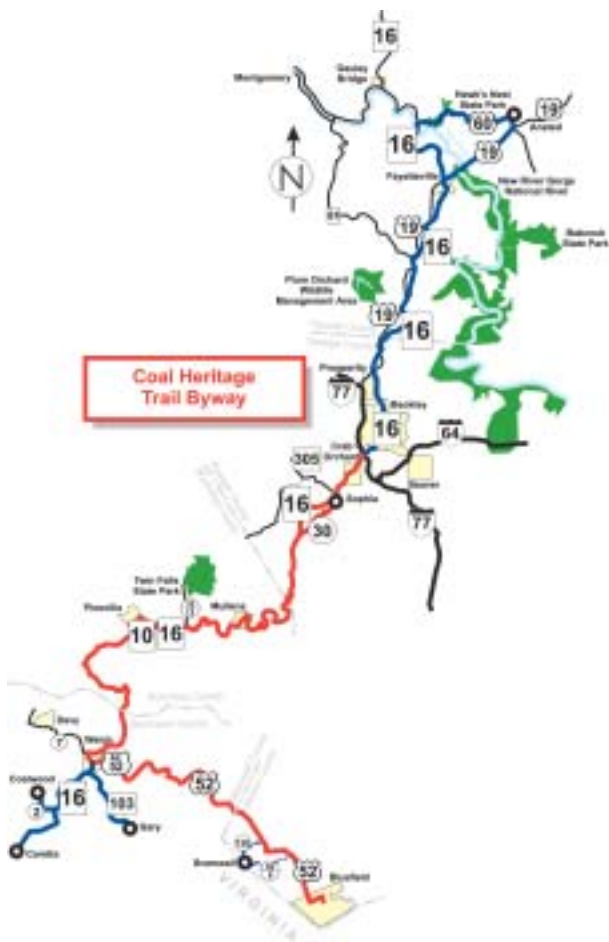
**Date of Designation:** 1998 (national designation)

**Contacts:** Southern West Virginia Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1-800-VISIT-WV; Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1-800-221-3206 and Coal Heritage Highway Authority, 304-256-6918, ccbaily@intelos.net

# National Byways



# Coal Heritage Trail



# National Byways



# Highland Scenic Highway



Winding through mostly undeveloped Monongahela National Forestlands past numerous natural areas, along clear, rock-strewn streams and across broad, expansive mountaintop ridges, the Highland Scenic Highway became one of West Virginia's first state-designated byways in August 1992. Then, in 1996, the Highland Scenic Highway, WV 150, became the state's first National Scenic Byway.

The Highland Scenic Highway extends nearly 46 miles from Richwood, West Virginia, to U.S. 219, seven miles north of Marlinton, West Virginia. The HSH rises from Richwood, elevation 2,325 feet, to more than 4,500 feet on some sections of the parkway, while traversing the mountainous terrain of the Allegheny Highlands and Plateau. Panoramic vistas are accessible from several scenic overlooks. Passing along the North Fork of the Cherry River, the HSH also provides access to developed recreation sites and thousands of acres of backcountry.

This region is laced with hiking trails and features numerous natural attractions including the Falls of Hill Creek Scenic Area, Cranberry Glades Botanical area, Summit Lake Recreation Area, Cranberry Wilderness and the Tea Creek Backcountry. Rustic accommodations can be found at Summit Lake, Tea Creek and Day Run campgrounds. At the junction of WV 150 and WV 39/55, the Cranberry Mountain Visitor Center offers information about the national forest and other nearby attractions, while an exhibit area and audiovisual programs provide interpretation of forest ecosystems and local history.

---

**Length:** 45.77 miles

**Driving time:** 2 hours

**Accessibility:** Paved, two-lane road, seasonal (WV 150 is not maintained for winter travel and is normally closed from early December to March). Speed limits are 55 mph for the WV 39/55 section and 45 mph for the Parkway section. Commercial traffic is not allowed on the Parkway section (WV 150).

**Services:** Gas, food and lodging are available in Richwood, Webster Springs and Marlinton. Camping in designated areas of the national forest.

**Special Features:** Hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking

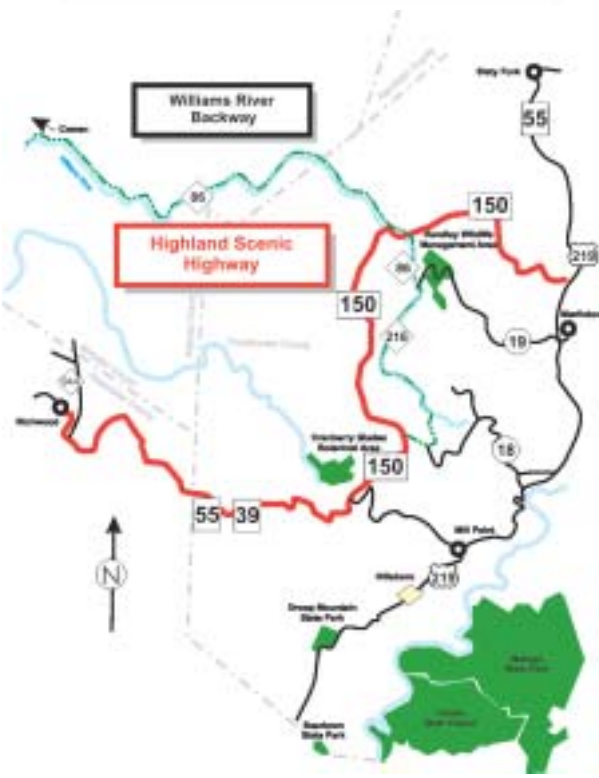
**Date of Designation:** August 1992

**Contacts:** Gauley Ranger District, 304-846-2695; Marlinton Ranger District, 304-799-4334; Pocahontas County Tourism Commission, 1-800-336-7009; [www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/sp/highland\\_hw.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/sp/highland_hw.html)

# National Byways



# Highland Scenic Highway



# National Byways



# The Midland Trail



The 116-mile Midland Trail stretches from White Sulphur Springs to Charleston. It received designation as a byway in August 1992, due to its integral role in the history and development of West

Virginia as well as its impressive cultural, natural, scenic and recreational qualities.

Before Europeans arrived in the New World, this road was important as a buffalo path and thoroughfare for Native Americans. As the pre-Civil War James River and Kanawha Turnpike, it provided a route westward for pioneers. Later paved for automobiles and designated as US 60, the Midland Trail served as a major east/west route until the completion of I-64. Viewscapes vary from bucolic farmlands to rugged river gorges as the winding trail passes small towns and communities, many of which retain much of their original character. Places such as Lewisburg, Rainelle, Ansted, Hawks Nest, Gauley Bridge, Smithers and Malden, where Booker T. Washington spent his youth, epitomize the quaint diversity and scenic splendor of the state.

---

**Length:** 116 miles

**Driving time:** 2 1/2 hours

**Accessibility:** Paved, two-lane highway with some truck passing lanes. The curvaceous nature of this roadway requires caution, especially during periods of inclement weather.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the route provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Industrial heritage of the Upper Kanawha Valley, Hawks Nest State Park, Historic Lewisburg and Malden, The Greenbrier Resort, access to fishing and whitewater rafting.

**Date of Designation:** August 1992 (state designation), June 2000 (national designation)

**Contacts:** Midland Trail Scenic Highway Association, Inc.  
304-343-6001  
[www.midlandtrail.com](http://www.midlandtrail.com)

# National Byways

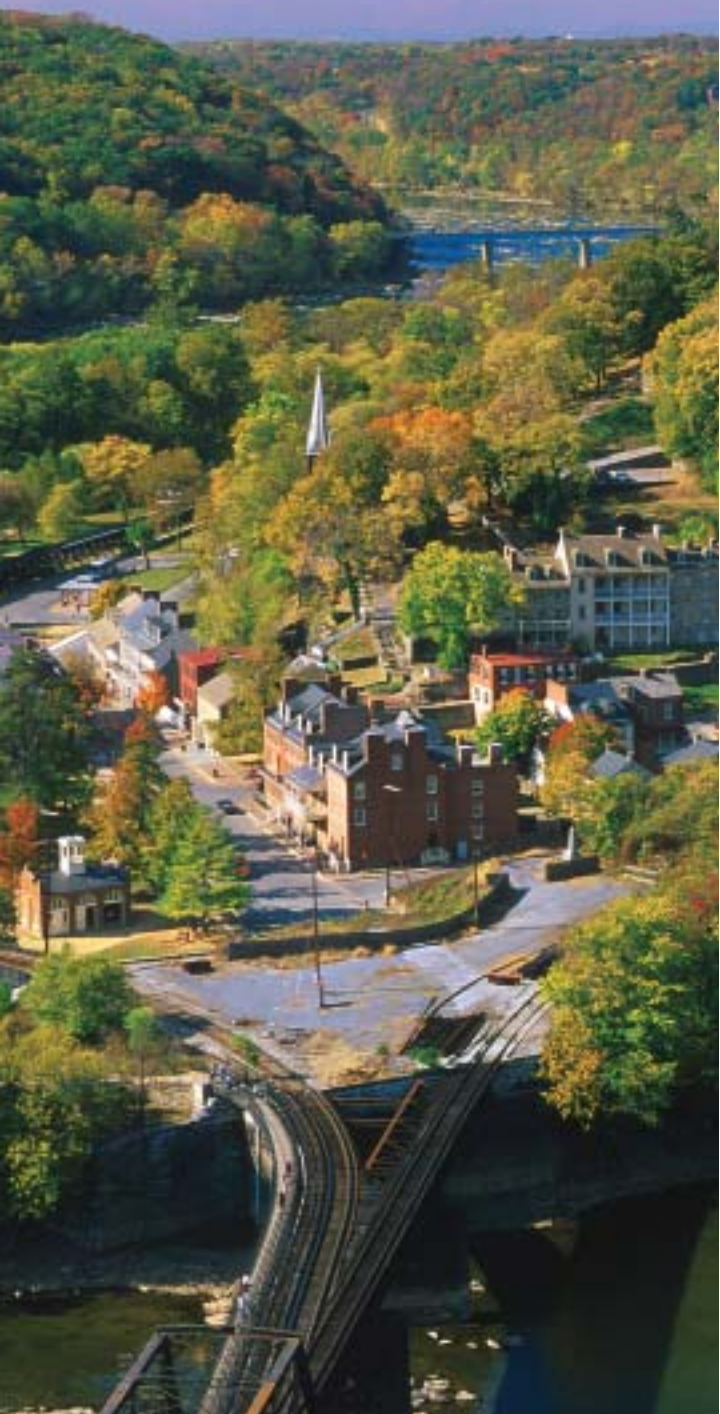
## Midland Trail



# The Midland Trail



# National Byways



# Washington Heritage Trail



Looping through West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle, the 137-mile Washington Heritage Trail (WHT) provides a tour through a region filled with rich heritage and scenic beauty that commemorates the life and legacy of George Washington, the nation's first president. The region's colorful history ranges from the Colonial period, boasting homes built by the brothers of our founding father, to the Civil War, highlighted by Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, site of Abolitionist John Brown's infamous raid. There are numerous historic districts, the only remaining railroad roundhouse of its kind in the world and a mineral springs health spa located along the WHT. From the scenic Potomac to the shallow rapids of the Shenandoah, the Trail is close to major recreational waters, the historic C&O Canal, two state parks and a wildlife management area that provide excellent opportunities for hiking, biking, hunting, fishing, canoeing and other prime outdoor recreation.

**Length:** 137 miles (112 mile loop with a 25 mile spur to Paw Paw, WV)

**Driving Time:** Approximately 3 1/2 to 4 hours.

**Accessibility:** County routes, two-lane state and U.S. highway.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the route provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Berkeley Springs State Park, Cacapon Resort State Park and Sleepy Creek Wildlife Management Area

**Historic Districts:** Berkeley Springs, Charles Town, Gerrardstown, Hedgesville, Shepherdstown and Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

**Date of Designation:** February 1998 (state designation), June 2000 (national designation)

**Contacts:** Washington Heritage Trail Association, Inc., 304-264-8801, keichelberger@travelwv.com; Travel Berkeley Springs, 304-258-9147 or 800-447-8797; Martinsburg/Berkeley County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 304-264-8801 or 800-4WVA-FUN; Jefferson County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 304-535-2627 or 800-848-TOUR

# National Byways



# Washington Heritage Trail



# National Byways



# Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike



This byway follows the spectacular route of the historic Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike, one of the first major roadways over the Alleghenies into western Virginia. The turnpike was vital to the early settlement

and development of the region and was strategically important during the Civil War in securing Union control of the area which was to become West Virginia. Traveling over high mountains and secluded valleys, the byway traverses the Monongahela National Forest and provides breathtaking scenic views and access to numerous recreational areas and Civil War sites.

**Length:** 43 miles

**Driving Time:** 1 1/4 hours

**Accessibility:** U.S. highway is well maintained.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the route provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Provides access to numerous significant Civil War sites, such as Rich Mountain Battlefield, Cheat Summit Fort, Camp Bartow and Camp Allegheny (see listings for Camp Allegheny, Back Mountain Road, Cheat Mountain and Rich Mountain backways). Also nearby are national forest recreation areas and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory.

**Date of Designation:** June 1996

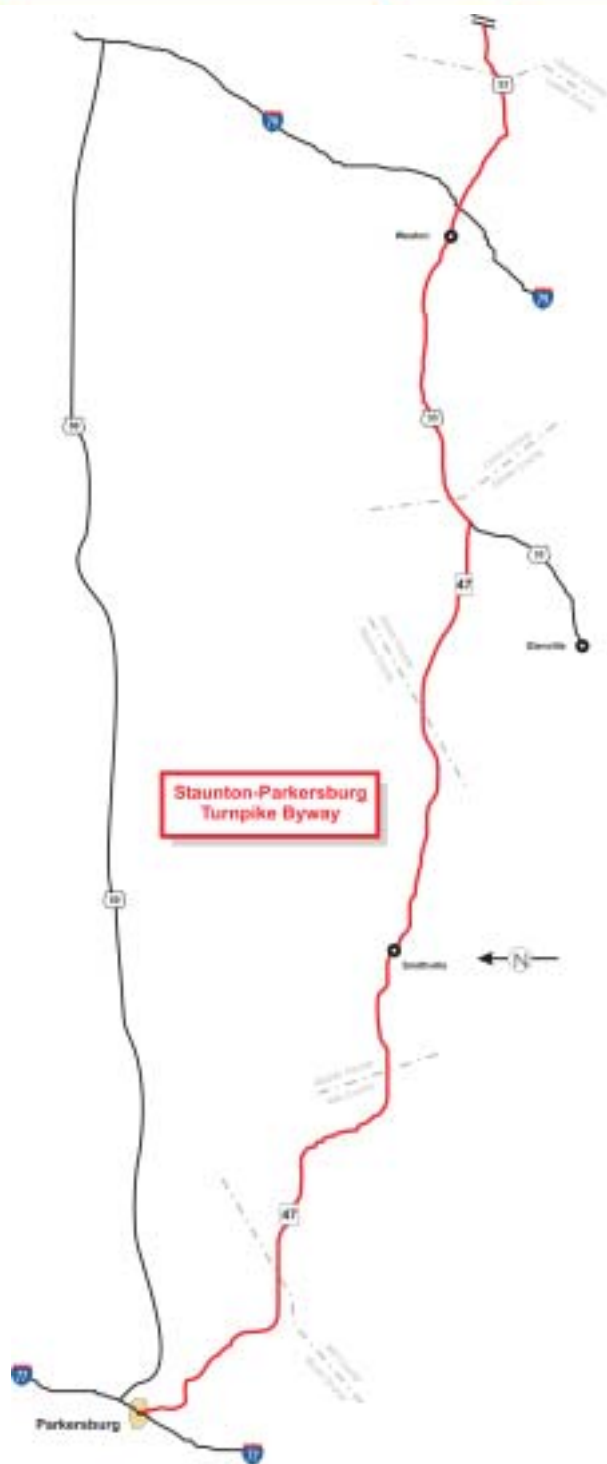
**Contacts:** Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance

304-637-7424

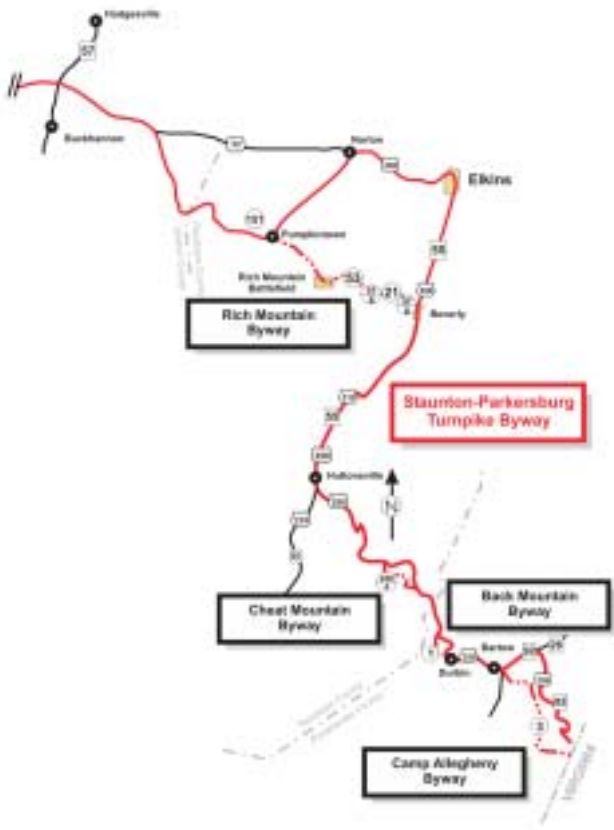
[richmt@richmountain.org](mailto:richmt@richmountain.org)

**Other contacts:** Pocahontas County Tourism Commission, 1-800-336-7009; Randolph County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1-800-422-3304.

# National Byways



# Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike



# National Byways



# Rich Mountain



This backway, from Beverly west across Rich Mountain through Mabie and on to the Coalton-Pumpkintown road, shows the difficult terrain covered by the original Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike. Nearly five miles of the route traversing the Rich Mountain is still gravel, with twists and turns around its contours emphasizing the slower pace of 19<sup>th</sup> Century travel. At the top of the mountain, travelers may visit Rich Mountain Battlefield, where interpretive trails lead to the battle site, Hart House site and veterans' rock carvings. Further down the western face of the mountain, interpretive trails lead to the earthworks of Confederate Camp Garnett, which controlled the turnpike in the early summer of 1861. Continuing on through the community of Mabie, the rolling hills on either side of the byway mark Roaring Creek Flats, the site of the Union encampment from which the Rich Mountain attack was launched.

**Length:** 12.5 miles

**Driving Time:** 30-45 minutes

**Accessibility:** Some backway portions closed by snow in winter.

**Services:** N/A

**Special Features:** Rich Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site

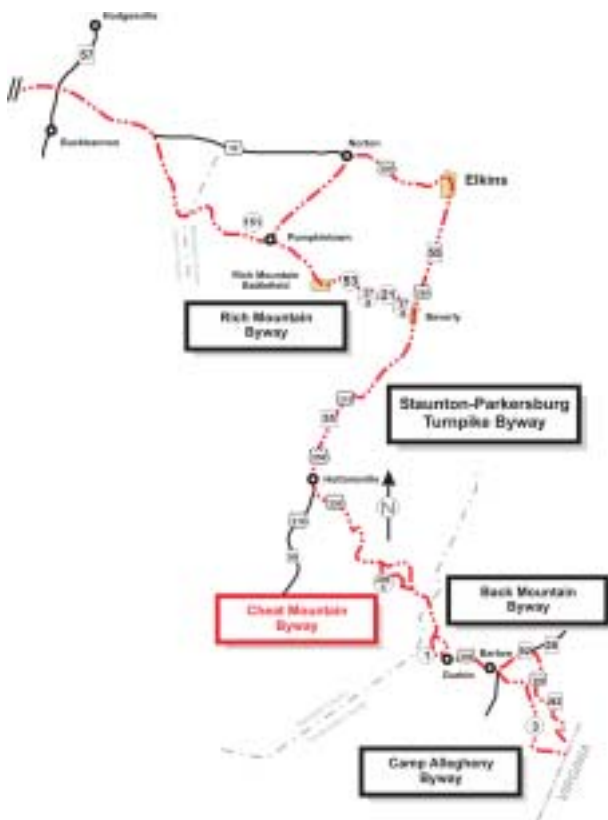
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** Staunton Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance, 304-637-7424, richmt@richmountain.org; Randolph County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 800-422-3304, www.randolphcounty.com

# National Byways



# Cheat Mountain



This small section of the original Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike runs south of US 250. Turn onto the road at Cheat Mountain Club, cross the river at the site of the original Cheat Bridge, then take the switchbacks to the right on up the mountain to the Civil War Cheat Summit Fort. Union troops camped here from the summer of 1861 until spring of 1862. The Monongahela National Forest site is fully interpreted with trails and an overlook. The turnpike route past the fort is now impassable, so the backway returns to the highway via the more direct Cheat Summit Fort road marked by signs.

**Length:** 3.32 miles

**Driving Time:** 15 minutes

**Accessibility:** May be closed by snow in winter.

**Services:** N/A

**Special Features:** Cheat Summit Fort

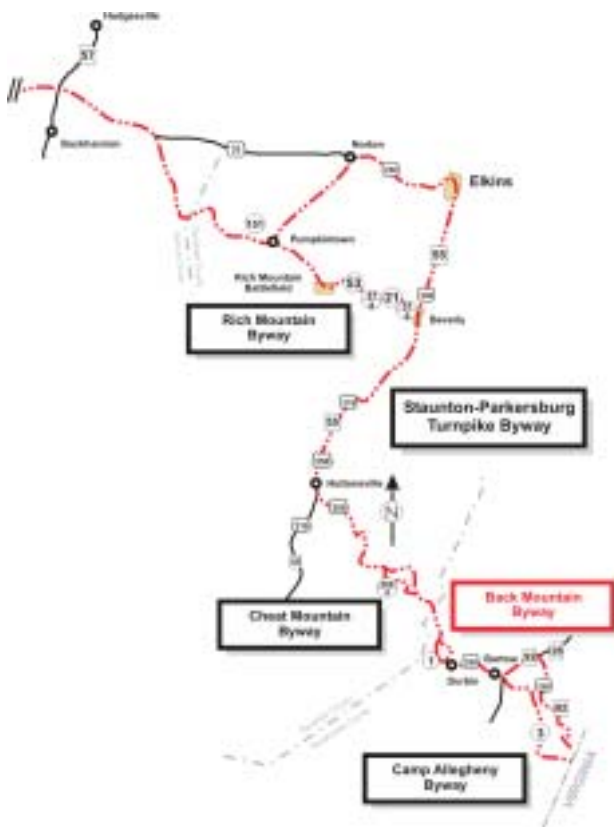
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** Staunton Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance, 304-637-7424, richmt@richmountain.org; Greenbrier Ranger District, 304-456-3335; Randolph County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 800-422-3304, www.randolphcounty.com

# National Byways



# Back Mountain



Cross the river bridge at the west end of Durbin and follow the road around a switchback and up the mountain. This segment follows the original Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike route up the east side of Cheat Mountain. This blacktop roadway is still lined with residences and remained in use as the main highway until the 1950s, when the more direct route US 250 was built.

**Length:** 2.7 miles

**Driving Time:** 10 minutes

**Accessibility:** Paved county road

**Services:** Gasoline and supplies available in Durbin.

**Special Features:** N/A

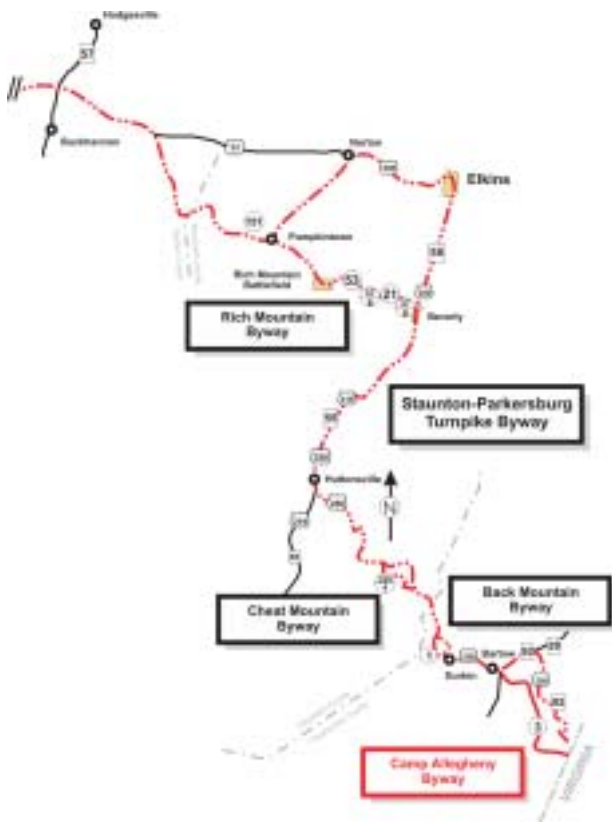
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance, 304-637-7424, richmt@richmountain.org; Greenbrier Ranger District, Monongahela National Forest, 304-456-3335; Pocahontas Tourism Commission, 800-336-7009, www.pocahontas.org

# National Byways



# Camp Allegheny



This gravel roadway follows the original alignment of the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike from the top of Allegheny Mountain down the mountainside to Bartow. Winding through dense forests, past abandoned homesteads and rolling meadows, the traveler is treated to breathtaking views of distant valleys and high-mountain ridges. The Civil War Confederate Camp Allegheny sits at the top of the mountain (with interpretation provided by the Monongahela National Forest Service) along with the dramatic remains of the fortifications on the facing knoll. At the bottom of the drive down the mountain, watch for the earthworks of Confederate Camp Bartow, most visible on the hill between the backway and the main highway. The private house at the bottom intersection is Traveller's Repose, a famous 19th Century inn on the Turnpike.

**Length:** 10.58 miles

**Driving Time:** 30-45 minutes

**Accessibility:** Road surface may be rough at times, especially in the spring, and is often closed by snow in winter.

**Services:** Gasoline and supplies available in Bartow.

**Special Features:** Monongahela National Forest, Camp Allegheny

**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike Alliance, 304-637-7424, richmt@richmountain.org; Greenbrier Ranger District, Monongahela National Forest, 304-456-3335; Pocahontas Tourism Commission, 800-336-7009, www.pocahontas.org

# Byways



# Old Route 7



Traveling east from the Monongahela River in Morgantown to the Maryland state line, Old Route 7 provides access to West Virginia University and the city's many historical, cultural and recreational attractions. It also provides access to the 17-mile Deckers Creek Trail, which parallels the byway from Sabraton to Masontown.

Along the route, Decker's Creek transforms from a gently flowing stream into a rapidly tumbling torrent that cuts a dramatic path through a narrow gorge strewn with limestone outcroppings, past overhanging rhododendron and laurel thickets. The creek calms again as the route passes near Arthurdale, the first New Deal Homestead founded in 1933 and a favored project of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt.

Along the Cheat River at Dunkard's Bottom, you will pass the site of the first white settlement (c. 1754) in Preston County. This region is also known among rafting enthusiasts of the Cheat as the premier whitewater rafting river of northern West Virginia. Crossing the Cheat, WV 7 begins climbing Briery Mountain to an elevation of 2,735 feet, providing extensive vistas and spectacular scenery. Terra Alta caps the mountain and offers a variety of historic sites, lodging and other visitor services.

---

**Length:** 43 miles

**Driving Time:** 1 1/2 hours.

**Accessibility:** Two-lane state highway is well maintained.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the byway provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Alpine Lake Resort, Cranesville Swamp, Arthurdale Historic District, The Old Mill at Decker's Creek, Deckers Creek Trail, Americana Museum and Coke Ovens at Richard, Cascade, Bretz and Corinth.

**Events:** *Morgantown:* The Florence Merow Mason-Dixon Festival, September; Trail Mix, a celebration of National Trails Day, June; and WVU's Mountaineer Week, November. *Arthurdale:* The New Deal Festival, July. *Kingwood:* The Annual Preston County Buckwheat Festival, the last weekend in September.

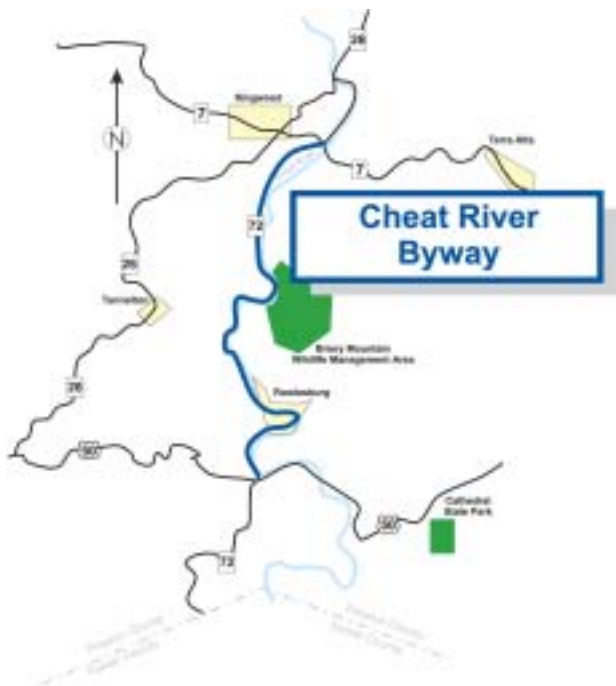
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** North Central Byways & Backways, Inc., 304-293-4633, mworkma2@wvu.edu; Preston County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 304-864-4601.

# Byways



# Cheat River



West Virginia 72, the Cheat River Byway, provides beautiful views of the rugged Cheat River Canyon. With the exception of the town of Rowlesburg, there is little development along the byway, and for six miles the river remains close to its primitive state. In fact, certain sections of the road give travelers the sensation of complete isolation. Numerous pull-offs provide not only views of the canyon, but Buckhorn Run Waterfall and the B&O Railroad's Tray Run Viaduct. The region is also known for the rail and industrial sites that support mineral extraction and the railroads that serve them. With the growth of the whitewater rafting industry along the Cheat from mid-March through June, and access to the 300-mile Allegheny Trail, the area is becoming equally well-known for its recreational opportunities.

**Length:** 14.3 miles

**Driving Time:** 30 minutes

**Accessibility:** Two-lane state highway is well maintained.

**Services:** Kingwood and Rowlesburg provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Cannon Hill Historic Site, whitewater rafting, fishing, Camp Dawson and Briery Mountain wildlife management areas.

**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** North Central Byways and Backways, Inc., 304-293-4633, mworkma2@wvu.edu; Preston County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 304-864-4601.

# Byways



# Northwestern Turnpike

This byway includes the section of US 50 traversing Preston and Taylor counties. The original route chosen for the turnpike by the General Assembly of Virginia in 1827 was deemed too difficult, so in 1830 a new route was devised and commissioned as the Northwestern Turnpike. The completed thoroughfare was a vital link to the West for freight and settlers. Today, US 50 follows the basic route of the Northwestern Turnpike, also known as the George Washington Highway, as originally designed.

Because of the rugged terrain, construction of the road was quite a challenge. Two of the biggest barriers were Cheat and Laurel mountains, with the Cheat standing at 2,746 feet and a 9% grade for three miles and 28 curves and the Laurel at 2,602 feet and an 8% grade on both the east and west faces. The beauty of the resultant valleys can certainly be enjoyed at any time of the year, but are arguably the most beautiful during the summer and fall. The many small communities that dot the landscape

along US 50 owe their existence to the commerce along the old Northwestern Turnpike and the industry spurred by the construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad that parallels the route. Special points of note along the byway include 1,145-acre Valley Falls and 2,000-acre Tygart Lake state parks, both near Grafton; virgin stands of forest at Cathedral State Park near Aurora; and Grafton's historic 1911 B&O Railroad Station and 1912 Willard Hotel, both undergoing restoration.



**Length:** 54 miles.

**Driving Time:** 1 1/2 hours

**Accessibility:** U.S. highway is well maintained.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the byway provide access to gas, food and lodging.

**Special Features:** Cathedral State Park, Kingwood tunnels, B&O Railroad yards & station (Grafton), the Mother's Day Shrine, the Old Stone Tavern, Grafton National Cemetery and Tygart Lake, Dam & State Park.

**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** North Central Byways & Backways, Inc., 304-293-4633, mworkma2@wvu.edu; Preston County Convention and Visitors Bureau, 304-864-4601.

# Byways



# Little Kanawha Byway

Winding along the Little Kanawha River, this byway traverses rustic farmlands and quaint rural towns. This alternative to interstate travel provides access from central West Virginia to Parkersburg as well as access to fishing, hunting and hiking; scenic views of the river, forests and farmsteads; abundant wildlife and a glimpse into a slower pace of life for which rural America is known.

The route is RV accessible and provides a very serviceable east/west link between two major north/south thoroughfares, I-77 and I-79.



**Length:** 77.63 miles

**Driving Time:** 2 to 3 hours (with stops)

**Accessibility:** Two-lane state highway.

**Services:** Several communities along the byway provide access to gas and food, with sizeable communities at either end of the byway providing access to lodging as well.

**Special Features:** Cedar Creek State Park, Job's Temple, John E. Arbuckle House, Glenville State College, Duck Run Cable Suspension Bridge, Burnsville Steel Truss Bridge.

**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contacts:** Little Kanawha Byway – Cedar Creek Backway Coalition, 304-462-8698, jim@gceda.com; Gilmer County Economic Development Association, 304-462-8098 or 1-800-480-8098.

# Byways



# Farm Heritage Road



The people of the farming counties in the southeastern corner of West Virginia have been living in relative harmony with the land since the late 1700s. Monroe County's Farm Heritage Road offers a picture of life in these rural and agricultural communities, which retain the character imparted upon them by previous generations. The route encompasses three distinct geographical settings: the quaint, winding course of Indian Creek; the gently rolling plateaus of farmland just east of the county seat of Union; and, finally, the picturesque Sweet Springs Valley, nestled alongside the lofty ridge of Peters Mountain in the Appalachian Ridge and Valley Region. The push of industry and commercialism has largely bypassed the area, therefore many old homes, farms and public buildings from throughout the county's 200-year history remain.

**Length:** 59 miles.

**Driving Time:** 1 1/2 hours.

**Accessibility:** Two-lane state and U.S. highway and is well maintained except under extreme winter conditions.

**Seasonal Information:** Redbuds and dogwoods bloom in mid- to late-April; spring leaves - mid-May; fall color begins in late September with peak color generally in mid-October.

**Services:** Numerous communities along the route provide access to gas, food, camping and lodging.

**Special Features:** Indian Creek Covered Bridge, Union Historic District, Old Sweet Springs, Salt Sulphur Springs, Old Rehobeth Church, site of Cook's Fort; The Old Mill, Moncove Lake State Park, caves and caverns, Shanklin's Ferry Wildlife Management Area.

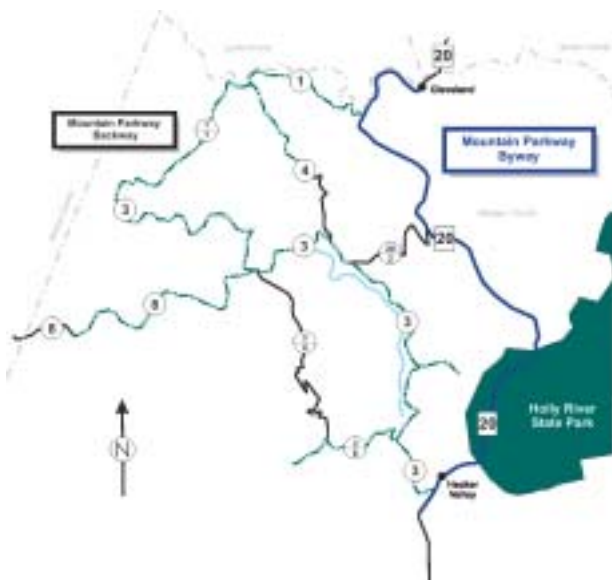
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contact:** Monroe County Tourism Bureau, 304-772-3016 or 304-832-6422, [tourmonroe@yahoo.com](mailto:tourmonroe@yahoo.com); Dr. H. Craig Mohler, 304-772-3016

# Byways



# Mountain Parkway



This short byway connects the Webster County communities of Hacker Valley and Cleveland, north of Webster Springs. The village of Hacker Valley was named in honor of John Hacker, who reportedly took possession of a tract of land nearby by “tomahawk mark” around 1772. Various wood industries are located in the Hacker Valley area, as well as several cottage crafters.

The Mountain Parkway also provides access to popular 8,000-acre Holly River State Park, the second-largest park in the state system. This mountainous, heavily forested park features cabins, camping and extensive hiking and stream fishing opportunities.

From Holly River, the road crosses Cutlip Mountain and descends to Old Sulphur Spring, a historical site at Jerry Run. Nearby are a cabinet shop, craft outlet, and the Jerry Run Summer Theater where live country and bluegrass bands perform on a weekly basis from mid-April through the first of October.

The byway terminates at the village of Cleveland, named in honor of Grover Cleveland. The old Cleveland store building and post office still stand, but are no longer in operation. Just before reaching the Upshur/Webster county line is a kiosk welcoming motorists entering the Mountain Parkway Byway from the north.

---

**Length:** 17 miles

**Driving time:** 30 minutes

**Accessibility:** Two-lane state highway

**Services:** Limited opportunities for gas

**Special Features:** Holly River State Park

**Date of Designation:** August 1999

**Contact:** Northern Webster County Improvement Council, Inc., 304-493-6668.

# Byways



# Lower Greenbrier River



Tracing a route along the river and railroad, the Lower Greenbrier River Byway (LGRB) discloses a history of settlement and progressions in transportation. With numerous access points, the Greenbrier River once again carries human traffic as it did before the rails and highways facilitated human movement. The LGRB follows the river's descent into historic Alderson, which features a unique arched bridge and restored depot. Passing through Lowell, the byway visits a 1722 log home known as the Graham House. Passing farms and nurseries, the traveler will find the site of John Henry's legendary competition with a steam-powered drill memorialized in Talcott. The historic railroad town of Hinton marks the end of the byway, where the Greenbrier empties into the New River.

**Length:** 32 miles

**Driving time:** 1 hour

**Accessibility:** two-lane state highway

**Services:** One small town, Alderson, and several smaller communities along the route provide access to gas, food, lodging. Many more services may be found Hinton.

**Special Features:** John Henry Memorial and railroad memorabilia at Dillon's Superette, Talcott; Historic Ponce Springs Hotel; Alderson Depot and Historic District; Graham House, Lowell; and Hinton Railroad Museum and restored Hinton Depot.

**Date of Designation:** March 2002

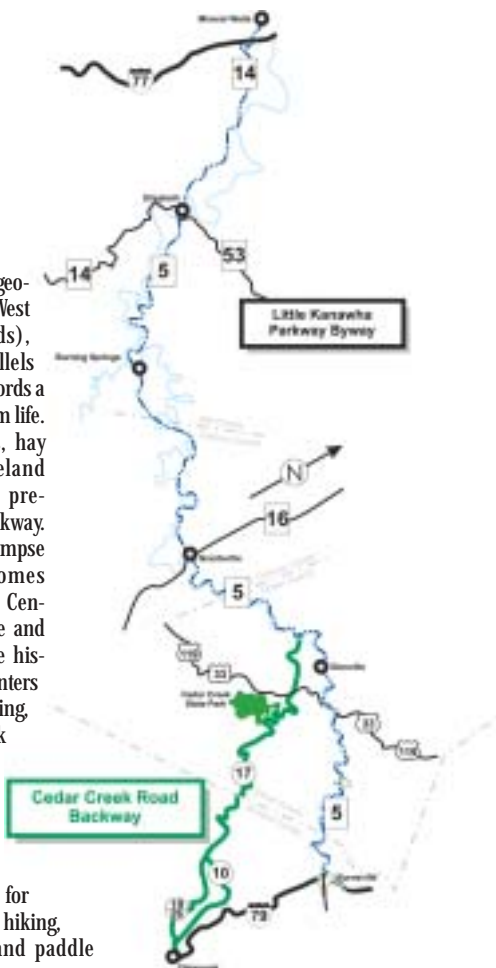
**Contact:** Lower Greenbrier River Byway Association, Inc., 304-466-5181, [ground@stargate.net](mailto:ground@stargate.net) or Summers County CVB, 304-466-5420, [www.summerscvb.com](http://www.summerscvb.com))

# Backways



# Cedar Creek Road

Located near the geographic center of West Virginia (Flatwoods), this backway parallels Cedar Creek and affords a glimpse of rural farm life. Quaint farmsteads, hay meadows, pastureland and forested hills predominate this backway. The traveler will glimpse buildings and homes from the mid-19th Century with Cedarville and Exchange being the historic commercial centers on the route. Hunting, fishing, horseback riding, jogging and biking are popular activities along the backway. Cedar Creek State Park affords opportunities for swimming, tennis, hiking, biking, camping and paddle boating.



Length: 41.42 miles

Driving Time: 1 1/2 hours

Accessibility: Varying from 5 miles of crushed rock-based roadway to 14 1/2 miles of two-lane asphalt, narrowing to one-lane asphalt for the remaining 22 miles of road. The traveler with an RV should only access Cedar Creek State Park from the US 33/Co. Rt. 17 junction in Gilmer County.

Services: Gas, food, supplies and restrooms can be found .5 miles east of the WV Rt. 5/Co. Rt. 17 entrance. Nearby communities of Flatwoods, Burnsville and Glenville provide a wide range of amenities.

Special Features: Cedar Creek State Park, Glenville State College, Duck Run Cable Suspension Bridge, Cedarville.

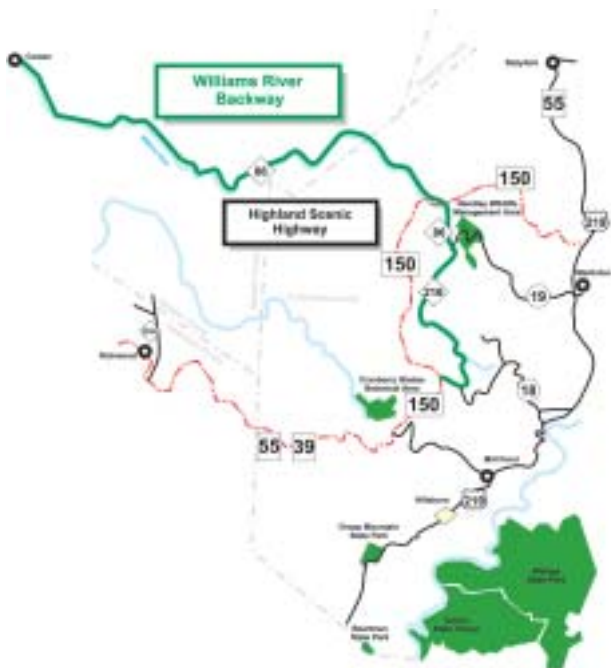
Date of Designation: June 1996

Contacts: Gilmer County Economic Development Association, 304-462-8098 or 1-800-480-8098; Little Kanawha Byway - Cedar Creek Backway Coalition, 304-462-8098, jim@gceda.com

# Backways



# Williams River



Known locally as the Williams River Road, this backway meanders through a scenic river valley, offering continuous views of densely forested hills and plunging water coursing through a rocky, boulder-strewn riverbed. Beginning in Pocahontas County near the headwaters of the Williams River, the backway extends to the confluence with the Gauley River. It is comprised of narrow, gravel Monongahela National Forest roads 86 & 216.

The Williams River is one of the most popular trout streams in West Virginia, and, as such, is stocked by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. Spring and fall are the most popular seasons for anglers. Camping along the river at Day Run and Tea Creek campgrounds and at numerous other primitive sites on the corridor is also popular. The route also provides access to many miles of hiking trails located within the 35,000 acre Cranberry Wilderness and the Tea Creek Backcountry.

---

**Length:** 28 miles

**Driving Time:** 1 hour

**Accessibility:** Narrow forest roads, drivable from spring through fall, but not maintained through the winter months. RVs should proceed with caution.

**Services:** Gas, food and lodging can be found at Marlinton, near the eastern access point. Similar amenities are available at Cowen on the western end of the backway.

**Special Features:** Camping, hiking and fishing access.

**Date of Designation:** August 1998

**Contacts:** Monongahela National Forest, 304-636-1800, [www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/sp/highland\\_hw.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf/sp/highland_hw.html)

# Backways



# Mountain's Shadow Trail



This backway carries on the theme and general character of the Farm Heritage Road Byway, though in a slightly more rugged, rustic fashion. The farms, which were carved out of the mountain valleys, reflect the handiwork of settlers who, whether by choice or economic necessity, created an existence for themselves in areas isolated from the rest of the county. The variety of the backway is bound together by the tangible presence of Peters Mountain, the 40-mile ridge which is undoubtedly the county's most notable geographic feature. Although wildlife is abundant throughout the region, it is even more evident along these less-traveled roads. For those interested in more extended outdoor experiences, the Mountain's Shadow Trail offers access to the Allegheny and the Appalachian hiking trails.

**Length:** 29 miles

**Driving Time:** 1 hour, 15 minutes

**Accessibility:** All roads are either one-lane paved or one-lane gravel. These routes are generally well maintained and suitable for passenger car travel except under conditions of snow and ice. RV usage is not recommended due to the narrowness of these roadways.

**Seasonal Information:** See Farm Heritage Road Byway, page 35

**Services:** Communities near the backway provide access to gas, food, camping and lodging.

**Special Features:** Salt Sulphur Turnpike, site of Wood's Fort, Jefferson National Forest, Allegheny Trail, Hanging Rock Observatory, Appalachian Trail.

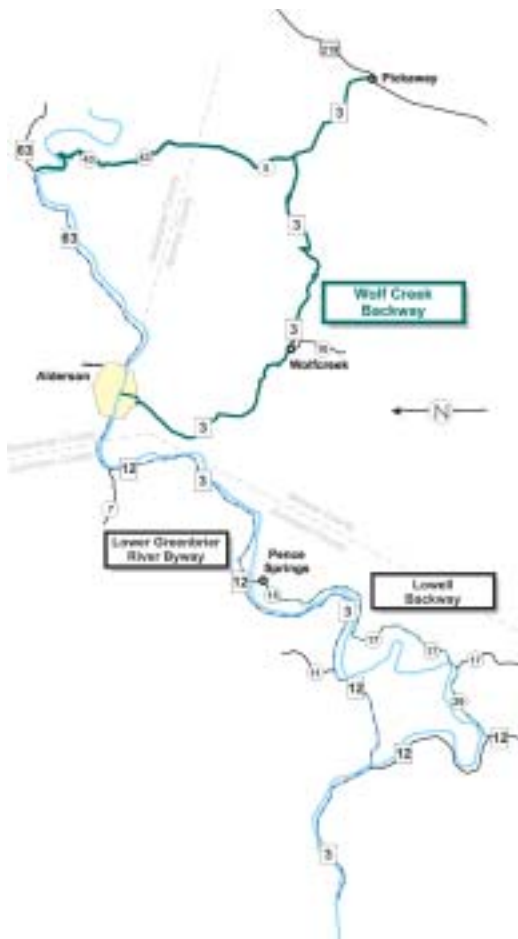
**Date of Designation:** June 1996

**Contact:** Monroe County Tourism Bureau, 304-772-3016 or 304-832-6422, [tourmonroe@yahoo.com](mailto:tourmonroe@yahoo.com); Dr. H. Craig Mohler, 304-772-3016

# Backways



# Wolf Creek



The Wolf Creek Backway enters gently rolling farmland from two points along the Lower Greenbrier River Byway. From the historic district of Alderson, the backway passes several fine barns and farmsteads. From Fort Spring, the road rises dramatically over the valley and winds into the once-thriving village of Sinks Grove. The underlying limestone that has supported agricultural activities has also created numerous sinkholes and caves. At the eastern end of the backway, Pickaway is only a few picturesque miles from Union and the Farm Heritage Byway.

**Length:** 24 miles

**Driving Time:** 45 minutes

**Services:** Two-lane state highway and county roads

**Services:** Wine tasting and sales at Wolf Creek Winery vineyard, convenience store and café at Pickaway provide gas and food, additional services at Alderson

**Special features:** Joseph Swope historic marker, Wolf Creek Winery, Pickaway National Register Historic Landscape.

**Date of Designation:** March 2002

**Contact:** Lower Greenbrier River Byway Association, Inc., 304-466-5181, [ground@stargate.net](mailto:ground@stargate.net); Summers County Convention and Visitors Center, 304-466-5420

# Backways



# Lowell



The Lowell Backway loops off the Lower Greenbrier River Byway and passes farms and camps located along a big bend in the river. Lowell features two ancient mineral springs: one at Pence Springs that provides an excellent base for bicycling and another at Barger Springs. Camp Summers was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s and contains old log structures used by generations of local children.

**Length:** 9 miles

**Driving Time:** 30 minutes

**Accessibility:** One-lane paved roads (motorists approaching each other from opposite directions are expected to “lay over” to their side of the road, right wheels on the gravel berm, as conditions permit.)

**Special Features:** Summers County 4-H Camp; access to the Greenbrier River at Red Rocks

**Date of Designation:** March 2002

**Contact:** Lower Greenbrier River Byway Association, Inc., 304-466-5181, [ground@stargate.net](mailto:ground@stargate.net); Summers County Convention and Visitors Center, 304-466-5420

# Backways



# Mountain Parkway



This backway provides access to a variety of cottage industry crafters specializing in such items as wood crafts, baskets, lawn ornaments, pottery, fabric and paintings. Hanging Rock is also a popular scenic site along the route. Travelers will also find well-marked historical sites including Pugh, Wheeler, Mount Zion Church and Boggs Mill Stone situated along the backway.

There are three spurs along the backway. The first, Webster County 3/6 at Pugh, runs to Cowger Hill area and passes by two crafters: a potter and a woodworker. The spur ends at Spicer's Orchard. This neat and well-kept orchard is a must see. The second is a three-mile spur following Webster County 8 from Hanging Rock, an usual and scenic rock formation, to the Mollohan Mill (a National Register of Historic Places site). The third spur, Webster County 4, is a one-mile stretch from the Boggs Mill Stone to the historic Johnson home.

---

**Length:** 32 miles

**Driving time:** 1 ½ hours

**Services:** None; be sure to gas up.

**Date of Designation:** August 1999

**Contact:** Northern Webster County Improvement Council, Inc., 304-493-6668.

# Additional Information

## Nationally Designated Byways

**Camp Allegheny Backway**  
**Back Mountain Backway**  
**Cheat Mountain Backway**  
**Rich Mountain Backway**  
Staunton-Parkersburg  
Turnpike Alliance  
P. O. Box 227  
Beverly, WV 26253  
304-637-7424  
richmt@richmountain.org

**Coal Heritage Trail Byway**  
Coal Heritage Trail  
Association  
PO Box 5176  
Beckley, WV 25801  
304-256-6918  
ccbailey@intelos.net

**Highland Scenic Highway**  
Mononaghela National Forest  
Tim Henry  
Recreation Manager  
P.O. Box 210  
Marlinton, WV 24954  
307-799-4334  
tlhenry@fs.fed.us

**Historic National Road**  
National Road Alliance  
Independence Hall  
P.O. Box 6338  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
304-238-1300  
gerry.reilly@wvculture.org

**Midland Trail Byway**  
Midland Trail Scenic Highway  
Association, Inc.  
237 Capitol Street  
Charleston, WV 25301  
304-343-6001  
alicehypes@aol.com

**Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike  
Byway**  
Staunton-Parkersburg  
Turnpike Alliance  
P. O. Box 227  
Beverly, WV 26253  
304-637-7424  
richmt@richmountain.org

**Washington Heritage Trail  
Byway**  
George Washington Heritage Trail  
Association, Inc.  
229 East Martin Street  
Martinsburg, WV 25401  
star@starwv.com

## State Designated Byways

**Old Route 7 Byway**  
**Northwestern Turnpike Byway**  
**Cheat River Byway**  
North Central Byways and  
Backways, Inc.  
1109 Tyrone Road  
Morgantown, WV 26508  
304-293-4633  
mworkma2@wvu.edu

**Mountain Parkway Byway**  
Northern Webster County  
Improvement Council, Inc.  
HC 32, Box 19  
Hacker Valley, WV 26222  
304-493-6668

**Farm Heritage Road Byway**  
Dr. H. Craig Mohler  
P. O. Box 130  
Union, WV 24983  
304-772-3016

**Little Kanawha Byway**  
Cedar Creek Backway Coalition  
PO Box 91  
Glennville, WV 26351

**Lower Greenbrier River Byway**  
Lower Greenbrier River Byway  
Association, Inc.  
HC 77, Box 345  
Hinton, WV 25951  
304-466-5181  
gound@stargate.net

# Additional Information

## State Designated Backways

### Mountain's Shadow Backway

Dr. Craig Mohler  
P.O. 130  
Union, WV 24983  
304-772-3016

### Cedar Creek Road Backway

Gilmer County Historic Landmarks  
Commission  
James Bailey, Chairman  
P. O. Box 91  
Glennville, WV 26351

### Little Kanawha Byway

Cedar Creek Backway Coalition  
PO Box 91  
Glennville, WV 26351  
304-462-8698  
jim@gceda.com

### William River Backway

Monongahela National Forest  
PO Box 210  
Marlinton, WV 24954

### Lowell Backway

### Wolf Creek Backway

Lower Greenbrier River  
Byway Association, Inc.  
HC 77, Box 345  
Hinton, WV 25951  
304-466-5181  
gound@stargate.net

## Additional Resources

### America's Byway Resource Center

227 W. First St.  
Suite 610  
Duluth, MN. 55802  
1-800-4-BYWAYS  
www.byways.org

### Federal Highway Administration

### National Scenic Byway Program

400 Seventh St., SW  
Rm. 3232, HEPN-50  
Washington, DC 20590  
202-366-6515  
dennis.adams@fhwa.dot.gov

# West Virginia Convention and Visitors Bureaus

## **Belington CVB**

Belington, WV  
*Barbour Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
304-823-3327  
Fax: 304/823-1806

## **Berkeley Springs CVB**

Berkeley Springs, WV  
*Morgan Co. - Eastern Panhandle*  
800-447-8797  
www.berkeley Springs.com

## **Braxton County CVB**

Sutton, WV  
*Braxton Co. - Mountain Lakes*  
304-765-3300  
www.braxtonwv.org

## **Greater Bridgeport CVB**

Bridgeport, WV  
*Harrison Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
800-368-4324 or 304-842-7272  
www.greater-bridgeport.com

## **Buckhannon-Upshur CVB**

Buckhannon, WV  
*Upshur Co. - Mountain Lakes*  
304-472-1722  
www.buchamber.com

## **Cabell/Huntington CVB**

Huntington, WV  
*Cabell Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-525-7333 or 800-635-6329  
www.wvvisit.org

## **Charleston CVB**

Charleston, WV  
*Kanawha Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-344-5075 or 800-733-5469  
www.charlestonwv.com

## **Coalfield CVB**

Gilbert, WV  
*Mingo Co. - Hatfield McCoy Mountains*  
304-855-5521  
www.coalfieldcvb.org

## **Dunbar CVB**

Dunbar, WV  
*Kanawha Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-766-0230 or 304-766-0222

## **Fayetteville CVB**

Fayetteville, WV  
*Fayette Co. - New River/Greenbrier Valley*  
304-574-1500 or 888-574-1500  
www.visitfayettevillewv.com

## **Grafton/Taylor County CVB**

Grafton, WV  
*Taylor Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
304-265-1589

## **Greater Clarksburg CVB**

Clarksburg, WV  
*Harrison Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
304-622-2157  
www.clarksburgvisitors.com

## **Greenbrier County CVB**

Lewisburg, WV  
*Greenbrier Co. - New River/Greenbrier Valley*  
304-645-1000 or 800-833-2068  
www.greenbrierwv.com

## **Hampshire County CVB**

Romney, WV  
*Hampshire Co. - Potomac Highlands*  
304-822-7221  
www.cometohampshire.com

## **Hancock County CVB**

New Cumberland, WV  
*Hancock Co. - Northern Panhandle*  
304-564-4800 or 877-723-7114

## **Hurricane CVB**

Hurricane, WV  
*Putnam Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-562-5896  
www.hurricanewv.com

## **Jefferson County CVB**

Harpers Ferry, WV  
*Jefferson Co. - Eastern Panhandle*  
800-848-8687  
www.hello-wv.com

## **Lewis County CVB**

Weston, WV  
*Lewis Co. - Mountain Lakes*  
304-269-7328 or 800-296-7329  
www.stonewallcountry.com

## **Marion County CVB**

Fairmont, WV  
*Marion Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
304-368-1123 or 800-834-7365  
www.marioncvb.com

## **Martinsburg/Berkeley County CVB**

Martinsburg, WV  
*Berkeley Co. - Eastern Panhandle*  
800-4WVA-FUN or 800-498-2386  
www.travelwv.com

## **Mercer County CVB**

Bluefield, WV  
*Mercer Co. - New River/Greenbrier Valley*  
304-325-8438 or 800-221-3206  
www.mccvb.com

## **Mason County Office of Tourism**

Point Pleasant, WV  
*Mason Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-675-6788  
www.pointpleasantwv.org

## West Virginia Convention and Visitors Bureaus (cont'd)

### **Mineral County COC**

Keyser, WV  
*Mineral Co. - Potomac Highlands*  
304-788-2513

### **Monroe County Tourism Bureau**

PO Box 341  
Union, WV 24983  
*Monroe Co. - New River/  
Greenbrier Valley*  
304-772-3033 or 304-832-6422  
[www.wvweb.com/monroecounty/](http://www.wvweb.com/monroecounty/)

### **Morgantown CVB**

Morgantown, WV  
*Monongalia Co. - Mountaineer  
Country*  
304-292-5081 or 800-458-7373  
[www.tourmorgantown.com](http://www.tourmorgantown.com)

### **New River CVB**

Oak Hill, WV  
*Fayette Co. - New River/Greenbrier  
Valley*  
304-465-5617 or 800-927-0263  
[www.newrivercvb.com](http://www.newrivercvb.com)

### **Parkersburg/Wood County CVB**

Parkersburg, WV  
*Wood Co. - Mid-Ohio Valley*  
304-428-1130 or 800-752-4982  
[www.greaterparkersburg.com](http://www.greaterparkersburg.com)

### **Pendleton Tourism Committee**

Franklin, WV  
*Pendleton Co. - Potomac  
Highlands*  
[www.visitpendleton.com](http://www.visitpendleton.com)  
304-358-3884

### **Philippi CVB**

Philippi, WV  
*Barbour Co. - Mountaineer Country*  
304-457-3700, ext. 214

### **Pocahontas County CVB**

Marlinton, WV  
*Pocahontas Co. - Potomac  
Highlands*  
304-799-4636 or 800-336-7009  
[www.pocahontascountywv.com](http://www.pocahontascountywv.com)

### **West Virginia Mountain Highlands**

Elkins, WV  
*Randolph Co. - Potomac Highlands*  
877-WVA-MTNS or 304-636-8400  
[www.mountainhighlands.com](http://www.mountainhighlands.com)

### **Putnam County CVB**

Hurricane, WV  
*Putnam Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-562-0518  
[www.putnamcounty.org/tourism/](http://www.putnamcounty.org/tourism/)

### **Randolph County CVB**

Elkins, WV  
*Randolph Co. - Potomac  
Highlands*  
304-636-2780 or 800-422-3304  
[www.randolphcountywv.com](http://www.randolphcountywv.com)

### **Richwood CVB**

Richwood, WV  
*Nicholas Co. - Mountain Lakes*  
304-846-6790  
[www.richwoodwv.com](http://www.richwoodwv.com)

### **South Charleston CVB**

South Charleston, WV  
*Kanawha Co. - Metro Valley*  
304-746-5552 or 800-238-9488  
[www.southcharlestonwv.org](http://www.southcharlestonwv.org)

### **Southern WV CVB**

Beckley, WV  
*Raleigh Co. - New River/  
Greenbrier Valley*  
304-252-2244 or 800-VISIT WV  
(847-4898)  
[www.visitwv.com](http://www.visitwv.com)

### **Summers County CVB**

Hinton, WV  
*Nicholas Co. - New River/  
Greenbrier Valley*  
304-466-5420 or 304-466-9230  
[www.summerscvb.com](http://www.summerscvb.com)

### **Summersville CVB**

Summersville, WV  
*Nicholas Co. - Mountain Lakes*  
304-872-3722  
[www.summersvillecvb.com](http://www.summersvillecvb.com)

### **Tucker County CVB**

Davis, WV  
*Tucker Co. - Potomac Highlands*  
304-259-5315 or 800-782-2775  
[www.canaanvalley.org](http://www.canaanvalley.org)

### **Wheeling CVB**

Wheeling, WV  
*Ohio Co. - Northern Panhandle*  
304-233-7709 or 800-828-3097  
[www.wheelingcvb.com](http://www.wheelingcvb.com)

# West Virginia Welcome Centers

## **I-64 Westbound Welcome Center**

Mile 179

White Sulphur Springs, WV

304-536-4553

## **I-64 Eastbound Welcome Center**

Mile 10

Huntington, WV

304-522-1062

## **I-68 Westbound Welcome Center**

Mile 31

Bruceton Mills, WV

304-379-2648

## **I-70 Westbound Welcome Center**

Mile 13

Valley Grove, WV

304-547-0660

## **I-81 Northbound Welcome Center**

Mile 2

Inwood, WV

304-229-8836

## **I-81 Southbound Welcome Center**

Mile 25

Falling Waters, WV

304-274-2281

## **West Virginia Welcome Center at I-77**

Mile 185

Williamstown, WV

304-375-2700

## **I-79 Southbound Welcome Center**

Mile 159

Morgantown, WV

304-328-5261

## **I-77 Service Plazas**

### **West Virginia Tourist Information Center**

Exit 9 (Princeton)

Route 460

304-487-2214

304-487-2130

### **West Virginia Turnpike**

#### **Mile 18 Northbound**

Bluestone Travel Plaza

304-384-7534

### **West Virginia Turnpike**

#### **Mile 72 Northbound**

Morton Travel Plaza

304-595-2238

### **West Virginia Turnpike**

#### **Mile 45 North and Southbound**

Beckley Travel Plaza

304-256-6695

### **West Virginia Turnpike**

#### **Mile 45 North and Southbound**

Tamarack Crafts Center

1-888-262-7225