



Travelling Through the Mountains to West Virginia

A two week journey

This is an itinerary for our first major trip to the USA. We were heading south to West Virginia to see the sights, visit sites, and learn about the history of the area. Feel free to use this itinerary for your own personal travel plans.

Thursday - Day 0

Finish work. Finish packing. Go to bed early.

Friday - Day 1

Wake: 5:00 AM **Leave:** 5:30 AM

Tim Hortons Breakfast

Panama Rocks Scenic Park

A privately owned park. Many trails through rock formations. Bring water, bug spray and hiking shoes. Admission.

T: 3:32 D: 322 A: 9:00 S: 2:30 L: 11:30

Drake Well Museum

Admission. A museum where the whole oil industry started in Pennsylvania.

T: 1:00 D: 74 A: 12:30 S: 90 L: 2:00

Venago Museum of Art Science and Industry

Admission. Small local museum. Closes at 4:00.

T: 23 D: 25 A: 2:30 S: 45 L: 3:15

Freedom Falls

Look for a large rock on the road and park there. The path is behind the rock. It is about 200 m from the road. For this time of year, the falls may be dried up. After, go a short distance downstream to see **Rockland Furnace**.

T: 26 D: 25 A: 3:45 S: 30 L: 4:15

Rockland (Woodhill) Tunnel

Continue driving down the road for a couple of minutes. There is a small parking lot before the road turns into a private road. This is a former train tunnel now converted as a trail for hiking and biking. Bring a flashlight when you walk through the tunnel.

T/D: short S: 30 L: 5:00

Hotel

Arby's is located behind the hotel.

T: 30 D: 35 A: 5:30

Saturday - Day 2

Wake: 8:00 **Leave:** 8:30

Dunkin' Donuts

Have breakfast here.

T: 14 D: 14 A: 8:45 S: 25 L: 9:10

Cunningham Park

Small community park to explore.

T: 5 D: 3 A: 9:15 S: 10 L: 9:35

Walmart

Pick up any supplies that are needed.

T: 5 D: 3 A: 9:30 S: 15 L: 9:45

Keystone Safari

Admission. It opens at 10 AM. Do the drive-through first. Be sure to purchase feed for the animals. Whatever food is fed to the animals must be purchased through the zoo—it is a legal requirement. After, do the second second, where you can walk into a more traditional-style zoo. ***Set an alarm. Must leave by 2:15 for next destination.***

T: 8 D: 8 A: 10:00 S: 4:15 **L: 2:15**

Hill View Manor

Cash is required. Tour time is 3:00. Tour guide takes you through a now haunted asylum. After, you are allowed to wander on your own for 90 minutes. Reserve your spot on their website.

T: 31 D: 43 A: 2:50 S: 3:20 L: 6:10

Dairy Queen

Across the road.

Hotel

After checking in, consider touring the area:

- Statue of Liberty
- Cascade Falls Park
- Murals - see the Pennsylvania and West Virginia Mural Map
- Drive in the heritage area around Scottish Rite Cathedral to see beautiful homes.

Sunday - Day 3

Wake : 6:30 Breakfast at the hotel **Leave: 7:30**

Hells Hollow Falls

2 Km round trip hike. Relatively flat. Hopefully the falls is not dry. Bring HIKING BOOTS and BUG SPRAY.

T: 20 D: 15 A: 7:50 S: 40 L: 8:30

McConnells Mills State Park

Park at the Kildoo parking lot. Picturesque mill with dam. Three waterfalls nearby. Considering the time of the year, the flow may be low or even dry. About 2 KM of walking. Steep hill in the beginning but then mainly flat.

T: 15 D: 13 A: 8:45 S: 45 L: 9:30

Mars Flying Saucer

A cheesy photo op. Welcome to Mars mural nearby.

T: 38 D: 45 A: 10:10 S: 10 L: 10:20

Old Economy Village

An interesting site featuring many buildings. Be sure to watch the introductory video on who these people were. Park at the visitor center and walk a couple of blocks. Some buildings will have guides inside to explain what the significance is. Opens at 10 AM. Admission.

T: 35 D: 30 A: 11:00 S: 2:30 L: 1:30

Off The Hook Exotic Pet Shop

Practically a zoo.

T: 4 D: 1 A:1:40 S: 20 L: 2:00

Walmart

Grab supplies, if needed, and maybe something for supper at the campsite.

T: 15 D: 12 A: 2:15 S: 25 L: 2:40

Tomlinson Run State Park Campground

Stay here for the night and check out their trails and other attractions.

TL 45 D: 40 A: 3:30

Monday - Day 4

Wake 7:00 Break Camp **Leave:** 8:00

World's Largest Teapot

T: 10 D: 18 A: 8:10 S: 10 L: 8:20

Toronto, Ohio

The founder of Toronto, Ohio loved Toronto, Ontario so much that he created this town. Explore this area to see how different it is from the city in Ontario.

- Town sign
- Community garden mural
- City hall

T: 20 D: 30 A: 8:40 S: 40 L: 9:20

Oglebay Mansion Museum

Tour the mansion, glass museum and large garden. Admission. Consider doing the zoo. Opens at 10:00 AM.

T: 55 D: 61 A: 10:20 S: 3:30 L: 1:50

Cathedral of St. Joseph

Uncertain if it is open today, but won't hurt to try. Open until 7:00 PM.

T: 1- D: 8 A: 2:00 S: 20 L: 2:20

Palace of Gold

Hindu temple built by volunteers. Do the peacock walk to find free-roaming peacocks. Cows get milked at 6:00 PM, if still in the area. Tour of the palace has admission.

T: 32 D: 27 A: 3:00 S: 2:00 L: 5:00

The Biggest Tree in West Virginia

It leans over the road. It will be a fun drive getting there.

T: 25 D: 17 A: 5:30 S: 15 L: 5:45

Supper and Hotel

Tuesday - Day 5

Wake: 7:30 **Leave:** 8:00 Find a McDonald's

Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Center

Opens at 9:00 AM. Tour the grounds. Free to explore.

A: 9:00 S: 45 L: 9:45

Cockayne Farmstead

Free museum on the history of the residents. Opens at 10:00 AM. Be sure to leave by 9:50 to get to the next place on time.

T: 6 D: 3 A: 9:50 S: 1:00 L: 10:50

West Virginia Penitentiary

90 minute tour that opens at 11:00. Make sure we are on the first tour. Admission.

T: 6 D: 3 A: 10:55 S: 1:40 L: 12:45

Walmart

Do we need supplies? Supper and breakfast stuff.

Cawley and People Mortuary Museum

Might only be donation to enter. A funeral museum. Go into the funeral home to get access.

T: 90 D: 115 A: 2:30 S: 45 L: 3:15

Ohio River Museum and/or Campus Martius Museum

There might not be enough time to visit all three places. Tours of the steamboat are at 2:30 and 3:30. Entire place closes at 5:00 PM. Consider if there is enough time left to visit one or all of these places before heading to the campsite.

T/D: nearby A: 3:20 S: 90 L: 5:00

North Bend State Park

T: 1:34 D: 122 A: 6:40

Wednesday - Day 6

Wake: 6:30 Break camp **Leave:** 8:00

Blennerhassett Museum of Regional History

Admission get a boat ride, wagon tour, mansion tour and museum visit. Opens at 9:00 AM for ticket sales. The first boat leaves at 10:00. Access to the island is at the top of the hour. Access back to the mainland is at the bottom of the hour.

T: 40 D: 50 A: 8:40 S: 4:20 L: 1:00

Consider **Oil and Gas Museum** a couple of blocks away, if finished earlier than expected.

Mothman Museum

Admission. A museum of the fabled Mothman that might have caused the bridge in town to collapse. After, walk down **Riverfront Park**. There are murals and statues. Continue walking to **Tu-Endic-Wei** State Park for more heritage.

T: 1:10 D: 98 A: 2:20 S: 90 L: 4:00

Shoney's Big Boy Museum

A very small outdoor display of the iconic Big Boy hamburger restaurant and mascot.

A slight detour from the route to the hotel.

Hotel in Charleston

Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart

Hopefully it is open when we visit. If not, try again tomorrow.

T: (from Mothman) 55 D: 87 A: 5:00

Charleston Town Center

Park at the hotel, if it is close enough, eat at the food court and then load up the West Virginia Murals and Sculptures Map and tour the area. Lots of walking and bring water.

Thursday - Day 7

Wake: 7:00 Hotel has breakfast **Leave:** 8:00

Consider **Spring Hill Cemetery** if running early. There could be wild deer in the cemetery and there are interesting trees.

Remember the **Co-Cathedral** to see if were not able to explore yesterday.

West Virginia State Museum

Free! Opens at 9:00. Tour the Capitol grounds. Parking likely not free and could be limited. A very large museum. It is well put together.

A: arrive for opening at 9:00 S: 2:30 L: 11:30

Craik Patton House

Free. Confirm hours before visiting.

T: 5 D: 3 A: 11:40 S: 30 L: 12:10

Samuel Shrewsbury Sr. House National Site

Unlikely able to enter. Here for a photo op.

T: 19 D: 7 A: 12:30 S: 10 L: 12:40

Cathedral Falls

Roadside falls with parking. Uncertain if it is flowing, especially if it has been dry.

T: 45 D: 48 A: 1:30 S: 20 L: 1:50

Mystery Hole

A corny location but one that can be fun and unique.

Admission. 15 minute tour. No photos.

T: 10 D: 8 A: 2:00 S: 30 L: 2:30

Glade Creek Grist Mill

Very scenic, operational mill. Gift shop.

T: 35 D: 38 A: 3:10 S: 40 L: 3:50

Babcock State Park Campground

T: 10 D: 5 A: 4:00

Friday - Day 8

Wake Early: 5:45 **Leave:** 7:15

Nuttallburg Ruins/Ghost Town

EXTREME HIKE DOWN and then back UP the mountain. The potential of 8 kilometres of HARD hiking. Bug spray. Water. Bear Spray

T: 18 D: 17 A: 7:35 S: 3:30 L: 11:00

Canyon Rim Visitor Centre

There is a gift shop and a view of the iconic bridge. Go to Fayette Rd Parking for a lower view of the bridge and small rapids.

T: 7 D: 6 A: 11:10 S: 45 L: 12:00

Lost World Caverns

45-minute tour \$12/person Closes at 4 PM

T: 1:30 D: 107 A: 1:30 S: 90 L: 3:00

Beartown State Park

Rock formations. 1KM hike. BUG SPRAY

T: 40 D: 40 A: 3:40 S: 50 L: 4:30

Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park

You can have a picnic here. Then, you can view the lookout tower and overlook the trail. The trail includes trenches from the Civil War. It is 1 km—moderately difficult. There are caves, too.

T: 8 D: 8 A: 4:40 S: 90 L: 6:10

Cranberry Glades

Small boardwalk area in a bog.

T: 25 D: 25 A: 6:40 S: 45 L: 7:30

Marlinton Motor Inn

T: 30 A: 8:00

Monday - Day 9

Wake: 8:00. Breakfast and break camp **Leave:** 9:30

West Virginia Botanic Garden

Free. The main gate opens at 10 AM, although there is parking outside the gate and a short walk into the gardens.

T: 17 D: 17 A: 10:00 S: 45 L: 10:45

Several small stops for statues

Don Knotts, Mast, Mountaineer, Tank, Cemetery

T: short drives L: 11:15

Mason Dixon Historical Park

Fairy Homes trail. From the parking lot, take the GREEN trail (1 km) to Blue Bell Trail, where the houses are (.5 km). Then, walk back on the Green trail. It's almost 3 km of walking.

T: 17 D: 18 A: 11:40 S: 1:00 L: 12:40

Miners' Monument

Rest Centre and Welcome Centre for Pennsylvania

T: 13 D: 15 A: 1:00 S: 20 L: 1:20

Woodville

Historic home. \$7/person

T: 47 D: 80 A: 2:10 S: 90 L: 3:40

Steepest Street in the USA

Park at a location a block away and walk. Not far.

T: 10 D: 8 A: 3:50 S: 20 L: 4:10

Wyndham Garden Pittsburgh Airport

Check-in

T: 20 D: 20 A: 4:15 S:30 L: 4:45

Chick-fil-A

Eat

T: 10 D: 5 A: 5:00 S: 30 L: 5:30

Boulos Parking Point Site *(This was originally on July 4th)*

Ideal parking location. An alternative is Mon Wharf Parking or West River Lot.

T: 15 D: 18 A: 5:45 S: Until fireworks at 9:35 PM in Point Park. Events happening in the park. See what is happening in the park. If nothing is of interest, please take a look at “Copy of Pittsburgh Murals and Public Art Map and tour the town.

Tuesday - Day 10

Wake: 6:45 Possible breakfast at the hotel. **Leave:** 8:15

Nationality Rooms at the Cathedral of Learning

Find street parking. Tour at 9:00 to 10:30

T: 35 D: 28 A: 8:50 S: 90 L: 10:30

Heinz Memorial Chapel

Parking on Bellefield Ave. Risk showing up in hopes of a tour or try their website.

T: walk D: walk A: 11 S: 45 L: 11:45

Optional is **Schenley Plaza**. Statues and flowers.

St. Paul's Cathedral

HOPEFULLY, the door is open!

WALK 600m A: 12 S: 30 L:12:30

The Frick Pittsburgh

OPENS at 10:00 Mostly free. Art museum, Car museum and greenhouse are open. The main house (Clayton) might not be open on Tuesdays. This part is the open thing that charges admission.

T: 30 D: 35 A: 1:00 S: 2:00 L: 3:00

Walmart

Supper and Breakfast supplies

T: 20 D: 19 A: 3:20 S: 20 L: 3:40

Ohiopyle State Park

Dogwood Road Site 59

Several waterfalls and is known for whitewater rafting. Be sure to check the ones outside the park too.

T: 1:16 D: 84 A: 5:00

Wednesday - Day 11

Wake 7:00 **Leave** 8:30

Laurel Caverns

It opens at 9:00. Get the combo tour that offers the most views
– 60 minutes long.

T: 26 D: 26 A: 9:00 S: 90 L: 9:30

The Great Cross of Christ

Photo Op

T: 15 D: 13 A: 9:45 S: 15 L: 10:00

McDonald's

Get a shake and see the museum

T: 1:00 D: 65 A: 11:00 S: 45 L: 11:45

Westmoreland Museum of Art

FREE! Including free parking. Possible garden?

T: 17 D: 14 A: 12:00 S: 1:00 L: 2:00

Bushy Run Battlefield

The last tour is at 3 PM. On a golf cart

\$8/person

T: 11 D: 12 A: 2:15 S: 90 L: 3:45

St. Nicholas Church Trailhead

Ruins of a former church.

T: 30 D: 30 A: 5:00 S: 20 L: 5:20

Randy Land

Closes at 7

T: 5 D: 5 A: 5:30 S: 20 L: 5:50

Raccoon Creek State Park

Possible falls. A mineral Trail takes us to a mineralized waterfall.

D15 Loop D

T: 40 D: 51 A: 6:30

Thursday - Day 12

Wake 7:00 Leave: 8:30

Phillps Conservatory

Admission. Book for 10 AM.

T: 12 D: 10 A: 9:45 S: 3:00 L: 1:00

St. Anthony Chapel

Largest collection of relics outside the Vatican. Limited hours.

T: 12 D: 10 A: 1:15 S: 1:45 L 3:00

Clement Way Graffiti Alley

Not very big. Park at Supermarket and walk a short distance.

T: 8 D: 4 A: 3:10 S: 20 L: 3:30

Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church

PHOTO OP only. Hopefully open

T: 6 D: 3 A: 3:40 S: 10 L: 3:50

Rodef Shalom Biblical Garden

Walk less than 100m L: 4:10

Sonic

IMPORTANT TO MAKE UP TIME. CONSIDER EATING AND DRIVING

OR consider McDonald's since it is easier to eat and drive.

T: 24 D: 24 A: 4:40 S: 30 L: 5:10

Double Diamond Deer Ranch

1. \$8/person. At 6 PM, they feed them, and we can help

T: 1:30 D: 145 A: 6:40 S: 1:00 L: 7:40

Lockport Inn and Suites

T: 3:10 D: 259 A: **10:50**

Friday - Last Day

Wake 8:00 Leave 9:30

Lockport Cave Tour

Tour at 10:00

T: 5 D: 2 A: 9:40 S: 2:00 L: 11:40

Cave of Winds

Admission PLUS parking. Buy tickets on site.

T: 45 D: 37 A: 12:30 S: 1:00 L: 1:30

HOME

T: 2:00 PLUS border crossing D: 171 A: 4:00