

52 *fun*

2025

THINGS TO DO IN THE PANHANDLE



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➤ **11** APRIL

FARMERS' MARKET OPENING DAY

MARTIN'S CREEK LOT / 2ND & LAST FRIDAYS APRIL-OCTOBER
4PM-7PM

➤ **31** MAY

3RD ANNUAL SPRINGFEST

DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK / SQUARE CORNER PARK
10AM-5PM

➤ **6** JUNE

PRIDE POOL PARTY

BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY POOL
6PM-8PM

➤ **14** JUNE

21ST ANNUAL POTOMAC STREET MILE

SQUARE CORNER PARK
9AM

➤ **3** JULY

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

BRUNSWICK MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPLEX
9PM / RAIN DATE: JULY 5, 2025

➤ **26-28** SEP

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

THROUGHOUT THE CITY / ADDRESSES POSTED ONLINE

➤ **4-5** OCT

42ND ANNUAL RAILROAD DAYS

DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK / SQUARE CORNER PARK
10AM-5PM

➤ **25** OCT

HALLOWEEN PARTY / TRUNK-OR-TREAT / HAUNTED HOUSE

DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK / SQUARE CORNER PARK
6PM-8PM

➤ **9** NOV

93RD ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PARADE

SQUARE CORNER PARK / EAST & WEST POTOMAC STREETS
OPENING CEREMONY 1PM / PARADE 2PM

➤ **6** DEC

SANTA TRAIN / MARKET / PARADE / TREE LIGHTING

DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK / SQUARE CORNER PARK
TRAIN RIDES 10AM & 3PM / PARADE 4PM

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52 *fun* things to do in the **Panhandle**

What's inside:

A wonderful place to live and visit, the Panhandle has something for everyone. Whether you want to shop, dine or just relax, discover all that is has to offer.

The Journal

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DESIGN Samantha Bangh



Harpers Ferry's historic Lower Town in the fall. Photo by NPS/Mills

1 Take a Step Back in the Past in **Harpers Ferry**

Indoors or out? No matter if you are looking for something fun to do in good weather or bad, **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park** does not disappoint. A visit to the Point is one to behold. It is at this spot that you can see where the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers meet. It is also the vantage point where you can look upon three states: West Virginia, Virginia, and Maryland. Outdoor enthusiasts can also “scale” one of many cliffs. The park has a range of climbing opportunities, including traditional, top rope, lead climbing and bouldering. Or, take a spin on your bike at the **Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park** towpath.

For indoor cultural pursuits, visit **John Brown's Fort** in the historic Lower Town and learn about its interesting traveling history. Yep, you read that right.

The building was moved several times – from Lower Town to Chicago to Murphy Farm outside of Harpers Ferry to the Storer College campus on Camp Hill and finally back to Lower Town. Or, explore one of the many campus buildings still in the park today on the former campus of Storer College, a small school started in 1865, which was created to provide an education to formerly enslaved men and women.

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
Visitors Center:
171 Shoreline Drive, Harpers Ferry, WV
25425

*For more information,
[visit \[nps.gov/hafe/index.htm\]\(http://visit.nps.gov/hafe/index.htm\)](http://visit.nps.gov/hafe/index.htm)*

2 Get Offroad

If you're looking for an adrenaline fix, off-roading just might be the ticket. There are several places in and around the Eastern Panhandle to get your kicks.

Some courses are for full-sized vehicles. Others are for all terrain vehicles and motocross bikes. For those who have the bigger toys, **Chaos Off-Road Park** in Capon Bridge is your place. They welcome 4×4 vehicles and trucks and most UTVs. All vehicles on trails must have seat belts. To get on a course at this park but must sign up for an event. Online pre-registration is required before stepping onto the property.

In Gore, Va., **The Cove Campground** has 30 miles of marked trail for ATVs and offroad cycles. The length of the trails ranges from two miles to more than 20 miles, all with parking at centralized starting points.

A little further away in Central City, Pa., sits **Mountain Ridge ATV Park**, one of the biggest parks of its type on the East Coast. It has nearly 40 trails for differing skill levels. This park is for cycles, quads and ATVs.



Photo by The Folkway, Josh Lykins Visuals and Jefferson County Convention & Visitors Bureau

3

Adventure Awaits

If you're in search of a once-in-a-lifetime thrill or some lazy summer fun, try some of the rafting, tubing and zipline experiences on West Virginia's rivers. At **River Riders** in Harpers Ferry, choose from a host of guided whitewater rafting and tubing tours, as well as several kinds of zipline experience for all ages. Also in Harpers Ferry, **River and Trail Outfitters** offers kayak and canoe rentals, whitewater expeditions in inflatable "ducky" kayaks and several tubing packages for the more leisurely inclined. Both locations offer camping for those who want to make a weekend of the outdoor fun. If you want to learn about the local environment while you adventure, **West Virginia University's Adventure WV** near Morgantown guides participants through the region's gorgeous tree canopy with tree-level platforms, an aerial bridge and four ziplines.

4

A Vegas-style Casino Experience

West Virginia's first horse track opened in Charles Town in 1933. Nearly 100 years later, the tradition continues strong at the **Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races**. Host of several West Virginia horse and dog races, the Hollywood is the perfect place to try your hand at a little betting, with live races year-round. Continue to try your luck at the neighboring, full-service casino with live poker, table games and more than 1,900 slot machines. If betting isn't your style, the resort offers a hotel with suites overlooking the racetrack and multiple delectable restaurants, including Top Chef star Fabio Viviani's The Eatery. The Event Center draws world-class musicians and comedians. Be sure to check out their schedule for upcoming shows.





Horseback riding at Triple C Outfitters. Photo courtesy of WV Tourism

5 Pick the Perfect Apple

A favorite pastime for many folks is heading out to an orchard to pick apples. While there are many orchards in and around the Eastern Panhandle, only a few are properly situated to handle visitors picking apples in their orchards. The others are better organized for farm markets or wholesale transactions. Perhaps the best and closest option for picking your own is **Orr's Farm Market**, which allows for online reservations at orrsfarmmarket.com/orrs-pick-your-own. You don't have to stop at apples either at Orr's. The farm also has pick-your-own flowers, cherries, berries, grapes and pumpkins. No need to make multiple reservations if you want to pick more than one crop. Once you get to the farm, you can add to your reservation. Make sure you call or check out the orchard's Facebook page, as harvests can sometimes vary greatly from one farm to another.



Staff photo of a young visitor picking apples at Orr's Farm Market.

6 Take a Ride

To enjoy the Blue Ridge Mountains' rugged natural vistas and mountain trails, few ways are as picturesque as riding on the back of a horse. Located on Cacapon State Park, **Triple C Outfitters** gives beginners and experienced equestrians alike the chance to take a guided ride along the mountain trails. Operating as a family business for more than 22 years, Triple C is open for rides from the end of March through the end of October. **Good Luck Stable**, located just outside Berkeley Springs, provides trail rides through forests and open fields. Besides trail rides, Good Luck Stable offers both English and Western horseback riding lessons for all ages, as well as a delightful petting zoo on its working farm. They are open year-round. For traditional horseback riding lessons, visit **Whiting's Neck Equestrian Center** in Martinsburg. Specializing in cross-country, jumping and dressage. Learn to ride in the center's indoor and outdoor arenas and its cross-country field. Whiting's also hosts horse shows at various times throughout the year.

7 Roll a Strike



Sometimes, the weather won't cooperate and it's best to stay indoors. In the Eastern Panhandle, a good option is to go bowling. It's a rarity when the parking lot at **Pikeside Bowl** in Martinsburg isn't jam-packed. The bowling alley hosts several leagues and tournaments, along with laser bowling and birthday parties. If you're looking for a more low-key experience, try **Midway Bowling** in Berkeley Springs. This bowling alley offers duckpin and ten-pin bowling.



8 Go Antiquing

West Virginia has a proud history of glassware and folk art, making the region a must-visit for antique enthusiasts. A fine example of the area's glassware can be found at **Berkeley Springs Antique Mall**, a local institution for decades. The owner says that the 7,000 square foot building has something for everyone, with 26 local vendors selling toys, jewelry, housewares and more. Also in Berkeley Springs, **Youngblood and McPeak Auctions** offer auctions from their spacious warehouse year-round, sourcing many of their finds from area estates. **Creekside Antiques** in Martinsburg offers a delightful and eclectic collection of household goods and Americana. Finally, don't skip **O'Hurley's General Store** in Shepherdstown, a collection of old-fashioned gifts and unique, artisan-crafted finds.



The Belle Boyd House.
Photo courtesy of West Virginia Collection within the
Carol M. Highsmith Archive, Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division

9 Take a Step Back into History

History abounds in and around the Eastern Panhandle. There are many museums to visit and learn about. The **Belle Boyd House**, which was the childhood home of Maria Isabella "Belle" Boyd, who served as a spy for the Confederacy, serves as the Berkeley County Museum. The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday. The **Washington Museum of Fine Arts** includes more than 6,000 works of art, including paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints. The museum is closed on Monday. The **Adam Stephen House** was home to the founder of Martinsburg, Adam Stephen, who was also a prominent general in Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. The Adam Stephen House is open on weekends from April through October. Admission is free but donations are accepted. With the exception of the first two weeks of December, when the annual Colonial Christmas celebration is held, the Adam Stephen House is closed from November through March. The **Triple Brick Museum**, which is also on the grounds of Adam Stephen House, holds the same hours of the Adam Stephen House. Located in the second story of the historic Roman Bathhouse in Berkeley Springs State Park, **The Museum of the Berkeley Springs** offers a view of the history of Berkeley Springs and the surrounding region. The museum's focus is on the town's warm mineral springs, the geology behind the springs, the historic hotels, historic bathing practices and the bottling of the water. The museum is open on Saturdays and Sundays. Tours can be arranged all other times by contacting the museum at: 800-447-8797.

10 Fun Times at the County Fair

In addition to giving local farmers a platform to showcase their goods, the Berkeley County, Jefferson County and Morgan County fairs offer spectators the chance to take in livestock shows, carnival rides and live music. There's plenty of food to be had at these outings, including pie-eating contests. Don't forget about the beauty contests, tractor pulls and demolition derbies.

The **Berkeley County Fair Youth Fair**. It's the biggest event of its kind in the Eastern Panhandle. While it includes all the entertainment options you'd find at a fair, its operators are particularly proud to be one of the "few remaining fairs dedicated to youth exhibitors."

The **Jefferson County Fair**. It includes carnival rides, drag racing, bull riding and even a watermelon eating contest. The event closes the last day with Mutton Bustin' and Greased Pig contests.

While no exact dates are available as of this printing, the **Morgan County Fair**, which is called the Morgan County Expo, is typically held during the last week of July and lasts a few days.



Photo by
Matthew
Burdette

11 Kids Can Have Fun, Safely!

Indoor playgrounds are taking fun to the next level for families in the Eastern Panhandle! The brand-new **Oh My Gosh Playground** in Martinsburg, WV is already creating buzz with its colorful, action-packed space where kids can climb, slide, and explore to their hearts' content—no matter the weather. Just a short drive away, **Ready, Set, Play** in Hagerstown, MD continues to be a local favorite, delighting kids for years with its dynamic play zones and engaging activities. Whether you're discovering a new favorite or returning to a tried-and-true classic, these indoor playgrounds are the perfect places for laughter, energy, and unforgettable adventures!



SUMMER FUN

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SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
June 27-July 13

Little Women
July 18-27

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET
August 1-10

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SPRINGTIME IN NEW YORK
Friday- Sunday May 9-11 \$679 per person includes 2 nights lodging at the Sheraton New York Times Square, 4 Hour Guided Tour of New York City, Statue of Liberty. Fantastic mid-town location at 7th Avenue and 53rd Street, close to Times Square, Central Park, Rockefeller Center, located in the heart of the theater district. A short walk to a lot of New York City attractions.

ATLANTIC CITY MARGARITAVILLE at RESORTS HOTEL CASINO OVERNIGHT
Sunday-Monday May 18-19 \$179 per person (double occupancy) includes overnight lodging at Margaritaville at Resorts Hotel Casino along the world famous Atlantic City Boardwalk Per Person Bonus Package: \$20 Bonus, \$20 Meal Credit

LAS VEGAS
5 Days/ 4 Nights, Monday -Friday, May 26-30, 2025 \$879 per person (double occupancy) Includes: Round-Trip Motorcoach to BWI, Round-trip non-stop air to Las Vegas, Round-trip Airport to Hotel Transfers, 4nights accommodations at the fabulous Excalibur Hotel & Casino.

CAPE COD 2025
Sunday-Thursday June 8-12, 2025 -\$939 per person (double occupancy) includes 4 nights lodging, 4 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners including a Lobsterbake Guided tour of the Cape to Provincetown with afternoon Whale Watch Cruise. Cape Cod Canal Cruise, Guided tour of Hyannis, Kennedy Museum, Tour of Sandwich and, round trip ferry to Martha's Vineyard with tour.

YELLOWSTONE, GRAND TETONS, JACKSON HOLE, CODY
Wednesday-Monday July 9-14, 2025 \$3999 per person (double occupancy), includes: Five nights lodging including 2 nights in Jackson Hole, three nights in Cody, 10 Meals, roundtrip airport transportation, roundtrip airfare, motorcoach transportation throughout tour, Cowboy show at Bar T5 Ranch, Grand Teton Wildlife tour, Grand Teton National Park, float trip on the Majestic Snake River, Yellowstone National Park, Irma Hotel, trolley tour of

ATLANTIC CITY 3 DAY SUMMER SPECIAL
Wednesday-Friday August 27-August 29 3 days/2nights \$299 per person (double occupancy) includes 2 nights lodging at Margareville at Resorts Hotel Casino along the world famous boardwalk.. Per person bonus: \$20 Bonus, 2-\$20 Meal Credits

SMOKY MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE
Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg Sunday -Thursday September 14-18 \$1129 per person (double occupancy) Includes: 8 Meals, 4 Shows: Hatfield & McCoy Dinner Feud, Comedy Barn, Country Tonight, and Dolly Parton's Pirates Voyage dinner show. Tour of Smoky Mountains, Titanic, Dollywood.

NEW ENGLAND FALL FOLIAGE TOUR
Monday-Friday, September 29-October 4 5 days/4 nights \$1289 per person (double occupancy). 4 nights lodging in Concord, NH, four breakfasts, 3 dinners including a Lobster Bake with entertainment, one boxed lunch Ride on the Cog Railroad to the Summit of Mt Washington and back Cruise on the MS Mt Washington from Weirs to Wolfeboro, Visit to Kennebunkport, Stonewall Kitchen and Hubble Lighthouse, Wine Tasting at Seven Bitches

ATLANTIC CITY MARGARITAVILLE at RESORTS HOTEL CASINO OVERNIGHT
Sunday- Monday October 26-27 \$179 per person (double occupancy) includes overnight lodging at Margaritaville at Resorts Hotel Casino along the world-famous Atlantic City Boardwalk Per Person Bonus Package: \$15 Bonus, \$20 Meal Credit.

SAVANNAH ADVENTURE
Sunday-Friday October 26-October 31 \$1599 per person (double occupancy) 6 day/ 5 nights Savannah Adventure includes five nights lodging, 10 meals Billy Graham Library, tour of Jekyll Island (including tram), tour of St. Simons Island, informative tour of Savannah, Low Country Tour, free time on River Street, show at the Savannah Theatre, storyteller in Mount Airy, tour of Mount Airy; and Andy Griffith Museum!

LAS VEGAS
5 Days/ 4 Nights, Monday -Friday, November 10-14, 2025 \$879 per person (double occupancy) Includes: Round-Trip Motorcoach to BWI, Round-trip non-stop air to Las Vegas, Round-trip Airport to Hotel Transfers, 4nights accommodations at the fabulous Excalibur Hotel & Casino.

NASHVILLE COUNTRY CHRISTMAS at GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT
Sunday-Wednesday December 14-17, 2025, \$2099 per person (double occupancy), includes roundtrip airfare, roundtrip bus to BWI, 3 nights lodging at Gaylord Opryland Resort., 6 Meals, four shows including Christmas Dinner show in ballroom at Gaylord Opryland (The Frontmen) Amy Grant & Vince Gill at the Ryman, General Jackson Showboat Luncheon Cruise with entertainment., Grand Ole Opry Christmas, Country Music Hall of Fame, Studio B guided city tour of Nashville, Delta Flatboat ride, Treasures for the Holidays, Ice.

CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK
Friday- Sunday, December 19-21: \$779 per person includes two nights lodging at the Sheraton New York Times Square and a Four-Hour Guided Tour of New York City and the Statue of Liberty. This fantastic mid-town location at 7th Avenue and 53rd Street is close to Times Square, Central Park, and Rockefeller Center. It is also located in the heart of the theater district, a short walk to many New York City attractions.

2025 ORIOLES BUS TRIP SCHEDULE
All games include All You Can Eat Club Level seating
Monday, May 26 vs. St. Louis 3:05 p.m. \$149
Saturday, June 28 vs. Tampa Bay 4:05 p.m. \$129
Thursday, July 10 vs. NY Mets 1:05 p.m. \$129
Saturday, August 9 vs. Athletics 7:05 p.m. \$129
Saturday, August 23 vs. Houston 7:05 p.m. \$129
Thursday, August 28 vs. Boston 1:05 p.m. \$119
Saturday, September 6 vs. LA Dodgers 7:05 p.m. \$159

ORIOLES AT FENWAY PARK BOSTON
Sunday-Wednesday August 17-20 \$999 per person (double occupancy) when the Boston Red Sox host the Baltimore Orioles, includes round trip motorcoach, tickets to 2 games and lodging at Sheraton Boston located in Prudential Center on Copley Square.

NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIPS
A Day on Your Own
\$99 per person
Saturday, June 7
Saturday, October 11
Saturday, November 29
Saturday, December 6
Saturday, December 13
Saturday, December 20

WIND CREEK CASINO
Bethlehem, PA
\$59 per person, \$30 Bonus
Saturday, April 12
Saturday, June 21
Saturday, August 9
Saturday, September 27

STATUE OF LIBERTY & ELLIS ISLAND
Liberty State Park, NJ Saturday, June 28 Adults \$129 Child \$119

OCEAN CITY BUS TRIPS
\$85 per person
Saturday, April 26 Springfest
Saturday, June 14 Air Show
Saturday, July 19
Saturday, October 25 Sunfest

MUSEUM OF THE BIBLE
Saturday July 26 Washington, DC \$89. Includes museum admission, early access, stop at Pentagon Mall after museum visit.

12

Take a Hike

The Eastern Panhandle has some of the best hiking opportunities you're going to find anywhere. The **Appalachian Trail** is nearby, as is the **Tuscarora Trail**, both with national reputations among the hiking community. Harpers Ferry is considered the psychological midway point of the Appalachian Trail. Locally, however, you can't go wrong with a trip to Cacapon State Park, which has 20 miles of well-kept trails.

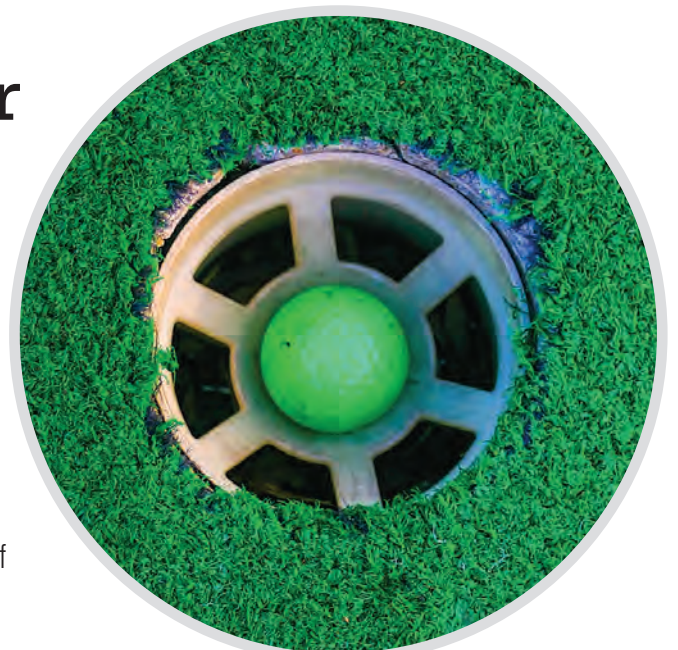
There's a trail no matter what skill level you're at. The **Cacapon Ridge trail** is perhaps the best known. It's considered a moderate challenge, but it's only 1.2 miles and includes breathtaking views of the valley. The **Central Trail** and the **Ziler Loop trail** are both 5 miles each but considered more difficult. The payoff with those two trails is the higher views. If you want something even closer, try the trails at Poor House Farm Park. The **Poor House Farm Park Loop** is 1.9 miles with limited elevation gain and is considered easy. A bigger challenge would be the **Route 9 Pathway**. This 10.5-mile trail runs along W.Va. 9 from Bardane to Martinsburg. There's also the **C&O Canal** where you could hike along the 18.5-mile towpath. Or if you're adventurous, try the Great Falls hikes, there's three sections of **Billy Goat Hikes**, all of differing difficulty levels. Regardless of where you decide to hike, make sure you're prepared. Bring water, snacks, possibly a map, just in case you don't have cell service and most importantly, make sure you let someone know your itinerary in the off chance you get lost.

Photo by The Folkway,
Josh Lykins Visuals and
Jefferson County Convention
& Visitors Bureau

13

Discover Your Love for Indoor Golf

Indoor golf enthusiasts in the Eastern Panhandle and Northern Shenandoah Valley now have two premier destinations to perfect their swings year-round. **Mountaineer Birdies, LLC** in Berkeley Springs, WV, offers a climate-controlled environment with access to over 350 golf courses worldwide, allowing players to practice, compete, and enjoy interactive games on state-of-the-art simulators. Meanwhile, **SwingFit** in Bunker Hill, WV, provides Tour-level club fitting and instruction, utilizing advanced technology like Trackman and PuttView to enhance performance for golfers of all skill levels. Whether you're looking to improve your game or simply have fun, these indoor golf facilities offer top-notch experiences for all ages.

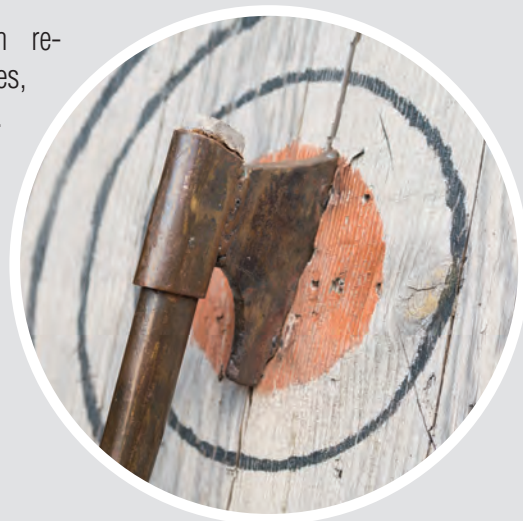


14

Throw an Ax

Axe throwing has become an increasingly popular activity in recent years. For those who want to try the sport for themselves, West Virginia's panhandle provides a couple of options.

Big Timber Hatchet House & Sports Bar in Martinsburg boasts seven lanes that can accommodate up to four people each in its modern venue with a full-service alcohol and food menu. Want to try something different? Big Timber also offers bookings for its two rage rooms and one paint splatter room. **Tilty McFlipperz Pinball Bar**, which opened in Martinsburg in late 2023, has a hatchet throwing lane in addition to an abundance of arcade games and pinball machines. If you get thirsty as you play, Tilty McFlipperz's bar has a rotating roster of local beers.



15

Drop a Line

There are many good spots to drop a line in the water and fish in the Eastern Panhandle. If you're over the age of 14, you need a fishing license. A daily license costs \$3 and can be purchased at a tackle shop or online at wvfish.com. If you have fishing gear, you can give it a go at **Cacapon State Park**. Its lake is stocked with trout in the spring. You will also find bass, bluegill, and catfish. At Poor House Farm Park, **Rickard Lake** is the fishing hole. The 5-acre lake is stocked with bass, trout, bluegill, catfish, and sunfish. If you want to fish and don't want to worry about a license, gear or bait, head over to **Zetts Fish Farm and Hatchery** in Inwood. For \$20, you can fish in one of their private lakes and keep six big fish.



16

Find Your Perfect Arrangements

The Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia is home to a vibrant floral community, with numerous florists offering a variety of services to meet the needs of residents and visitors alike. Throughout the Eastern Panhandle we have numerous florist options and here are a few of them.

Garden by the Woods, located in Martinsburg, offers field-grown cut flowers, including peonies, lilies, and English roses, available from March to October. They provide a personal service to fit various budgets and styles, with naturally grown, seasonal flowers picked for special occasions. **Ginger's Flower Shop**, established in 1973, has been serving the community for decades, offering a wide range of floral arrangements for weddings, funerals, and everyday occasions. **Depot Florist**, located at 532 W King St, provides fresh, seasonal flowers, wedding arrangements, and gifts. While these florists offer a variety of services, it's advisable to contact them directly to inquire about pick-your-own flower opportunities, as such services may vary by season and availability.



17

Chugga Chugga Choo Choo

Railroads played a crucial role in the Eastern Panhandle's history. Consider starting with the **Martinsburg Roundhouse**, which was built in the 1840s, making it a crucial hub of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The roundhouse was a strategic asset to both sides during the Civil War and was built and destroyed several times during the fighting. Now, weekday tours of West Virginia's 16th historical landmark are available upon request at www.roundhousewv.com. The site also houses several community events, including toy train shows and farm markets. If you're looking for more of an interactive experience, check out the **Western Maryland Scenic Railroad**. Based out of Cumberland, Maryland. These vintage trains run year-round through the scenic Maryland Mountains. Or, if you want to make a day of it, you could drive down to Cass and hop on one of the trains at the **Cass Scenic Railroad Park**. And don't miss visiting the **Joy Line Railroad and Toy Train Museum** in Harpers Ferry. It operates from the first of May until the middle of October each year. The Toy Train Museum features vintage electric trains and other toys from before 1938. The Joy Line Railroad offers a smaller-scale miniature train ride that both kids and adults can enjoy.

A classic direct gear locomotive pushes cars of tourists out of the station at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park in Cass, West Virginia. Photo by Carol M Highsmith

18

Visit a Nature Preserve

Embark on a journey of discovery and tranquility by visiting **Yankauer Nature Preserve** in Martinsburg. Nestled amidst the lush landscapes of our region, this sanctuary beckons with pristine beauty and a diverse ecosystem. Be sure to walk **Stauffer's Marsh Nature Preserve**, located in Hedgesville, while exploring the winding trails that meander through verdant forests, where sunlight filters through the canopy, casting shadows on the forest floor. Marvel at the vibrant sounds as you visit the **Cool Spring Nature Preserve**, located in Charles Town.



RANSON FESTIVAL

&

CAR SHOW

SATURDAY

JUNE 7TH

10AM TO 3PM

CAR SHOW REGISTRATION:
8:30AM TO 10AM
TROPHY PRESENTATION:
3PM

CAR SHOW AWARDS:
TOP 30 BEST CAR
BEST TRUCK
BEST MOTORCYCLE
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A Day of Fun for Everyone!

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- Food Trucks
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- Chris Darlington
- Band
- TV Personality
- Heather Storm
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19

Indulge in Local Breweries and Distilleries



Swilled Dog, located in Upper Tract, West Virginia, is a family- and dog-friendly cidery and distillery offering award-winning hard ciders, bourbons, and ready-to-drink cocktails. Their spacious tasting rooms provide a relaxed atmosphere with games, light bites, and live music, all set against the backdrop of the scenic Appalachian Mountains.

BootLeg Distilling, located at 384 Yeakley Drive in Martinsburg, WV, is a family-owned craft distillery nestled in the Appalachian foothills. Founded by Brad and Lucia Armel, the distillery offers a variety of handcrafted spirits, including their signature Sweet Cinn rum, which has been praised for its cinnamon candy flavor and versatility in cocktails. Visitors can enjoy tastings and tours Thursday through Sunday, with products available at local retailers and bars throughout West Virginia.

Jefferson Distributing Company, established in 1960 and located at 799 Mid Atlantic Parkway in Martinsburg, WV, is a family-run beer distributor serving Jefferson, Morgan, and Berkeley counties. With a portfolio that includes domestic, craft, import, seltzer, and cider beverages, they manage nearly 400 accounts and deliver approximately 1 million cases of beer annually.

Devil's Due Distillery, located in Kearneysville, focuses on whiskey and Moonshine products made with locally sourced ingredients. They hold tastings, classes, and live music and sometimes open their space for local community groups to meet.

Black Draft Distillery is a Martinsburg-based distillery that produces grain-to-glass craft spirits. Founded in 2014, Black Draft was among the first to produce legal moonshine in West Virginia since it had been out.

Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festival

**BUY ONE TICKET
GET ONE TICKET FREE
FRIDAY SEPT. 26TH ONLY**

49th Annual MHACF
September 26-28, 2025
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Daily

General Admission 13+ \$10.00
Children under 13 are free

Jefferson County WV Fairgrounds
1707 Old Leetown Pike,
Kearneysville, WV 25430

**SCAN HERE TO
LEARN MORE**

www.MHACFestival.org

Celebrate the 49th Annual Mountain Heritage Arts & Crafts Festival kick-off on Friday, September 26th with a special Buy One Get One Free Ticket offer!

Stroll among tents, buildings, and pavilions, where you can admire a diverse collection of crafts, fine arts, and more. Enjoy delicious food and refreshing drinks while you explore.

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20



Mountain State Harvest Festival

Catch a Parade with the Family

Each community in the Panhandle marches to the beat of its own drum. What better way to enjoy each community than to attend a parade? It won't be hard to find one. There are almost too many to count. A good place to start is with the holidays. Charles Town and Ranson combine their efforts the first weekend in December each Christmas for a sizable parade through the cities that overlap one another. Martinsburg also has its Christmas parade, as does Berkeley Springs as part of its WinterFest celebration. But wait, there's more. Martinsburg has a large Veteran's Day parade. Shepherdstown has its annual July 4 parade. As part of its annual Apple Butter Festival, Berkeley Springs has an **Apple Butter Parade**. Normally within the same time frame in the fall, Martinsburg holds a parade as part of the Mountain State Apple Harvest Festival.

21



Photo by Emily Keefer

Celebrate the Holiday Season

The scent of apple dumplings fills the air and the frost nips at your nose. It's Christmas time in the Panhandle. It all starts the day after Thanksgiving with Black Friday shopping, followed by Small Business Saturday. The holiday festivities continue. Martinsburg's Christmas Celebration, **Christmas on Main** will be held on Dec. 7. It includes a Christmas Market, food trucks, live music, Santa's arrival and the tree lighting ceremony. And what would a Christmas celebration be without a tuba, or 40 of them? Each year tuba enthusiasts flock to Harpers Ferry for the **Tuba Christmas celebration**, where tubists play their favorite holiday selections. The festivities are held at the train station. The Berkeley Springs **Winterfest Christmas Parade** is typically held the first weekend of December. It started in 2018 and ever since, has grown in length and participation. It always draws a crowd.

22

Enjoy a Craft Festival

Craft enthusiasts need to look no further than the Eastern Panhandle. The area's deep historical connections are key to the time-honored methods and traditions that these local artisans possess. Several events are a must, including the **Blue Ridge Arts and Crafts Festival**, which is held at Sam Michael's Park in Harpers Ferry and the **Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival** in Kearneysville. Another strong option is the **Morgan Arts Council's Festival of the Arts** in Berkeley Springs. The Blue Ridge Arts and Crafts Festival occurs twice a year. There's a Spring Fest in late April and a Fall Fest in Early October. Both events feature more than 70 vendors offering handcrafted gifts – and goodies for yourself. Admission is free and there's live music, food trucks, door prizes and kids' activities. The Mountain Heritage Arts and Crafts Festival is held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in late September or early October. It's one of the biggest in the area with more than 180 juried artisans. This festival features live bluegrass music, West Virginia wines and all the food options you'd expect at an event of its kind. The Morgan Arts Council's Fest of the Arts, held at the Ice House in downtown Berkeley Springs in late September or early October, is a festival that celebrates art in all its forms including juried fine art and craft vendors.

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**72ND ANNUAL
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23 Explore the Spooky Side of Local History

The candlelit **Small Town Ghost Tours** make the rounds of Shepherdstown and Sharpsburg, Maryland. Founder Meredith Moore bases her stories on both local history and her experiences with the paranormal. In Berkeley Springs, **Healing Springs Stroll** highlights the haunted side of the spa town's renowned history, complete with a costumed guide. The classic **Charles Town Ghost Tours** offers six different options. Founder Ann Khriel Fern is an avid Civil War buff, and in addition to ghost tours offers three daytime walking expeditions for those who want less haunting with their history. All of these companies offer public or private tours and can be booked on their websites.

24 Hunt for a Geocache

Combining outdoor exploration and GPS technology with a real-life treasure hunt, geocaching can be the perfect recreational activity for the whole family. Berkeley County is a national center for geocaching, and with good reason – with more than 57 active caches, there are plenty of treasures to find! Start with the **Hidden Treasures GeoTrail**, launched in 2022 for the county's 250th anniversary. Find geocaches and claim a trackable geocoin while exploring West Virginia's rich history. The **Berkeley Gadgets GeoTour** adds an additional challenge. Created by a prolific geocaching aficionado, these gadget caches combine traditional geocaching with escape room-style, mechanical puzzle boxes you must solve to get inside. Getting started with geocaching is as simple as creating a free account on geocaching.com, downloading the app, and using your phone's GPS to begin the hunt!



25

Get Inspired with Home & Garden Tours



Above: Participants in the 2009 Back Alley Garden Tour & Tea enjoy a Shepherdstown garden. Bottom left: more than 20 gardens open to the public, as part of the Back Alley Tour and Tea in Shepherdstown. Photo by Toni Milbourne

There are many homes and gardens in the Eastern Panhandle with significant historical importance. At different points during the year, groups like The Shenandoah-Potomac Garden Council, which has its annual **House and Garden Tour** at the end of April, coordinate with the owners of these properties to allow visitors to tour these homes and gardens. This year's event is April 27-28. For ticket information and time, look up The Shenandoah-Potomac House and Garden Tour on Facebook. Another must is the **Back Alley Garden Tour and Tea**, hosted by the Shepherdstown Community Club. This is a self-guided tour of private gardens hidden in the back alleys of Shepherdstown. The tour, which is held in May, culminates with a big afternoon tea party.

26

Check Out a Library



While it makes sense to associate libraries with books and story times, modern libraries offer many other services and activities for every age. The West Virginia panhandle boasts nine library branches, each with a different flavor. The **Morgan County Public Library** in Berkeley Springs is conveniently located downtown in a former 1870s home. Be sure to check out their **Future Harvest Seed Library**, which welcomes donations of locally grown, organic heirloom seeds that are free to take. The four branches of the **Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library** offer a wide variety of programs, including two weekly yoga classes at the Hedgesville location. For those who want to travel internationally, the Martinsburg branch also offers a passport acceptance service. Finally, the four libraries of Jefferson County offer a wide variety of fun activities. Visit the **Shepherdstown Public Library**, the oldest continually occupied library building in West Virginia. A unique architectural landmark, the library is small but mighty with regular craft programs and displays from local artists. For a fun, conversation-based program, be sure to check out the branch's monthly Socrates Café, where patrons ask questions about a topic in a non-political environment that welcomes varying perspectives.



27

Make some Furry Friends

Want to spend some quality time with cuddly critters in and around the Eastern Panhandle. How about a pony party? **Good Luck Stable**, outside of Berkeley Springs, offers just that for kids who have a love for horses. Or there are several farms around where you can meet some of the animals. While not traditional petting zoos per se, it's still a nice escape to go to **A Little Slice Family Farm** in Martinsburg, for instance, to get some flowers or produce and see the ducks take a swim in their pond, or maybe meet their donkey.



28 Kids at Play

For the younger set, head to one of the region's playgrounds or recreation centers for hours of outdoor fun. **JayDee's Family Fun Center** in Inwood is best known for its waterpark, complete with slides and a splash pad, and its go-kart track. However, there's enough to fill an entire day, with an 18-hole miniature golf course, batting cages, an indoor jungle gym and arcade games. Two municipal parks are also worth a family visit: **War Memorial Park** in Martinsburg has a playground, miniature golf course, pool and sports courts; and **Sam Michaels Park** near Harpers Ferry has a bring-your-own discs disc golf course and a playground. Be sure to check out Sam Michaels' free concert series this summer at the Amp, an outdoor music venue set in the middle of the park's green space, Wolftrap-style. The venue draws regional artists in a variety of genres every weekend.



Annual Charles Town Car Show in downtown Charles Town.
Photo by Toni Milbourne

29

Car Shows – Get in Touch with your Mechanical Side

If you're passionate about unique or antique vehicles, the Eastern Panhandle offers a variety of car shows that cater to every enthusiast. From pristine classics to wildly customized rides, these events provide a glimpse into automotive history and culture. In Martinsburg, Street Dreamz hosts a popular Mother's Day car show, and the Spring Mills FFA Alumni organizes an annual car show and swap meet at the high school. Carquest Parts in Martinsburg also holds its own event. Berkeley Springs draws a huge crowd for a major show on Father's Day weekend, sponsored by Mountain State Cruisers at the state park. In Ranson, the Ranson Festival & Car Show takes place in early June, featuring a car show, sports celebrities, a kids' zone, music, axe throwing, an escape room, food, crafts, and more. Charles Town hosts one of the largest shows of the year each Labor Day weekend, transforming downtown into a classic car paradise. These events not only showcase a diverse range of vehicles but also offer a fun-filled experience for the whole family.

30 Don't Overlook the Overlooks

Visiting overlooks is an invitation to witness nature's beauty from a breathtaking perspective. Perched atop rugged cliffs is **Prospect Overlook** in Berkeley Springs. The vantage points offer panoramic views that stretch as far as the eye can see. While visiting **Bolivar Heights Scenic Overlook**, located in Bolivar, you can gaze out over vast landscapes, one filled with a sense of awe and wonder at the sheer magnitude of the world below. We would be remised if we didn't mention heading to Harper's Ferry to view their many overlooks. Whether overlooking misty valleys veiled in morning fog or catching the fiery hues of a sunset painting the sky in vibrant colors, each moment spent at an overlook is a reminder of the awe-inspiring beauty that surrounds us.



Prospect Overlook

31

Plan Your Next Romantic Getaway



The Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia is the perfect destination for a romantic getaway, with local businesses offering unique experiences for couples. In Berkeley Springs, **The Country Inn**, a charming bed and breakfast, provides cozy rooms and access to the town's famous mineral springs, ideal for a relaxing spa day at **Berkeley Springs State Park**. For a more intimate dining experience, **Lot 12 Public House** in Martinsburg offers a romantic setting with farm-to-table dishes and a carefully curated wine list, perfect for a candlelit dinner.

For those seeking adventure, **Harpers Ferry Adventure Center** offers thrilling rafting and zip-lining excursions, followed by a cozy stay at local bed-and-breakfasts like **The Ledge House**. In nearby Jefferson County, **Blue Ridge Vineyard** invites couples to enjoy wine tastings while soaking in views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, making it a perfect spot for a romantic sunset toast. Whether you're relaxing in a quaint inn, enjoying fine dining, or exploring the outdoors, the Eastern Panhandle offers everything needed for a memorable and romantic escape.

32 Experience Unique Art

The Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia is rich in history, and its museums offer a fascinating window into the region's vibrant past. From Civil War battlefields to transportation heritage and African American history, each museum tells a unique story. In Martinsburg, the **B&O Roundhouse** stands as a restored gem, showcasing the area's railroading legacy with exhibits and community events. Nearby, the **Berkeley County Museum** at Poor House Farm Park highlights local history with artifacts spanning centuries. For a deeper dive into African American contributions, the **Martinsburg African American History Museum** shares powerful narratives and cultural milestones.

Traveling east, Jefferson County hosts several standout sites. **The Jefferson County Museum** in Charles Town holds a treasure trove of Civil War and local history, while **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park** blends natural beauty with historic landmarks and immersive exhibits about John Brown's raid and 19th-century life. These museums across the Panhandle not only educate but also create a lasting connection to the people, struggles, and triumphs that have shaped the region. Whether you're a history buff or just looking for a meaningful way to spend an afternoon, the Eastern Panhandle's museums offer a rewarding journey through time.

33 Historical Landmarks



John Brown Fort.
Photo by Toni Milbourne

The convergence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers at historic Harpers Ferry is just the beginning of your sight-seeing venture within the town of Harpers Ferry and the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Be sure to visit **John Brown's Fort and The John Brown Wax Museum**, which outlines the story of the abolitionists' fight against slavery. Brown raided the town in 1859, hoping to start a revolt that would free slaves. He and his supporters barricaded themselves in the fort during the final hours of the attempt, which failed. Afterward, during the Civil War, the fort would be "used as a prison, a powder magazine, and perhaps a quartermaster supply house. Union troops admired the fort as they passed while Confederate troops cursed it," according to the National Park Service website. "Many troops broke pieces of brick and wood off the fort as souvenirs. It was the only Armory building to escape destruction during the Civil War."



35

More Than Just a Game

High school sports in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia are more than just games—they're a vibrant part of the community, bringing families, students, and neighbors together in support of local talent. From Friday night football under the lights to the intense rivalries on the basketball court, schools like Martinsburg, Jefferson, Hedgesville, Spring Mills, Musselman and Washington boast strong athletic programs that consistently draw enthusiastic crowds. Martinsburg High School, for example, is known statewide for its powerhouse football team, while Jefferson and Spring Mills often shine in sports like baseball, basketball, and track.

The excitement isn't limited to the big-name sports either—wrestling, volleyball, soccer, and cross country all have dedicated athletes and fans who bring energy to every match and meet. Whether you're cheering on a thrilling buzzer-beater, watching a perfectly executed touchdown, or following a local athlete's journey to the state championship, there's no shortage of action. Catching a high school game in the Eastern Panhandle isn't just entertainment—it's a chance to witness the heart, hustle, and pride that define these tight-knit mountain communities.

34 Spend the Day at a Local Festival

As the leaves change, the festivals start. As one of the biggest fall celebrations in the Panhandle, the **Mountain State Apple Harvest Festival** in Martinsburg gets underway on the third weekend in October. It includes a parade in downtown, baking contests, a craft fair, live music, a car show, a 5k run/walk and orchard tours. Held Columbus Day weekend, the **Apple Butter Festival** is one of the biggest community events held in Morgan County. If you venture to Berkeley Springs for this one, expect a crowd. But also expect to see many different flavors of apple butter being made in large copper kettles over open fires. There will be more than 100 booths offering food, handmade crafts and local artwork. The Bavarian Inn is nationally

acclaimed for its German cuisine and it's on full display during its **Oktoberfest** celebration held over several weekends in September and October. There will be food, imported German beers, dancing and other festivities.

In Shepherdstown, there are also two big spring events. **Earth Fest** is an annual event held in April at the Shepherd University Student Center. It features educational booths by environmental organizations, vendors, activities and live music. **May Day** is celebrated on the first Sunday in May on the lawn of McMurrin hall at Shepherd University. The highlight of the day is the Maypole dance where children and adults weave colorful ribbons around a tall Maypole.

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VIEW VIDEO TOUR





Orr's Farm Market in Martinsburg sells many kinds of fresh produce, even in the winter months. Photo by Emily Keefer

36

Pull Over for Farm-Fresh Produce

The Eastern Panhandle and the surrounding areas have deep agricultural roots. The best way to get in touch with these roots is to take a visit to one of the many local farm markets.

There's no better example of from Farm to table than these agribusinesses. Not only can you pick up locally grown produce at its peak ripeness, but many of these markets sell homemade pies, jams and jellies. A few of them sell locally harvested meats.

Orr's Farm Market sits on the premises of the Orr Family farm. While this farm technically has a Martinsburg address, it's miles away

from the hustle and bustle of the city. Many activities and services are available, including a bakery, local meats and picking your own produce. The market is open Monday through Saturday year-round.

While **Buckwheat Farm** may be tucked away in the peaceful countryside, it's bursting with locally grown charm and down-home flavor. Known for its fresh produce and farm-raised meats, the farm also features a cozy market space and seasonal offerings that highlight the best of what the region has to offer, giving visitors an authentic taste of the Eastern Panhandle.

Kitchen's Farm Market, located in Falling Waters, offers fresh produce, a bakery, a butcher shop and local products. They are known for their homemade donuts and apple cider.

Spring Valley Farm Market has locations in Martinsburg, Romney and Winchester Va. For details on the Martinsburg location's hours and address, call (304) 350-8613.

Berkeley Springs Farmers Market operates on Sundays from the first week of April through Early December at the corner of Fairfax St. and Rt. 522 in Berkeley Springs.

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37

Enjoy a Skaters Paradise

Welcome to the wonderful world of skating in our area! Whether you're a veteran skater or just a beginner, our community offers a variety of options for you to slide across the ice or jump to the sky through the skate park. With a vibrant skating culture and numerous facilities to choose from, we invite you to lace up your skates and see what we have to offer! **Martinsburg Skate Spot** is a popular destination for kids of all ages. If you are looking for something more family friendly, **Galaxy Skateland** has a popular roller-skating rink fit for all to enjoy. You bring the pizza and ice cream, and they will handle the rest! And for those brave enough to venture into the cold, **Frosty Fest**, a community ice skating event, is held annually in January in Shepherdstown.

38 Not Your Typical Escape Room Experience

Martinsburg Escape Room will be offering an immersive, team-based adventure right in the heart of Martinsburg, West Virginia. Designed for groups of friends, families, or coworkers, participants are tasked with solving intricate puzzles and uncovering hidden clues to "escape" within a set time limit. The experience emphasizes collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity, making it an ideal choice for anyone seeking a fun and challenging outing.

Whether you're celebrating a special occasion or simply looking for a unique activity, **Martinsburg Escape Room** will provide an engaging environment that encourages teamwork and problem-solving. With its central location and thoughtfully designed rooms, it will be a standout destination for entertainment in the Eastern Panhandle.



39 Support a Pride event

June is widely recognized as Pride Month. The LGBTQ+ rights movement stemmed from the Stonewall Riots, which happened in June of 1969. Today, parades, festivals and other events take place throughout the month to show support, celebrate, advocate and empower the LGBTQ+ community.

Berkeley Springs Pride holds its **Pride Picnic in the Park** every June at Berkeley Springs State Park. It is a fun, family-oriented event filled with food trucks, craft vendors, face painting, lawn games, a photobooth and live music.

Every year in downtown Martinsburg, people gather for the annual Eastern Panhandle Pride celebration. This may be a one-day event, but its positive effects and goodwill feelings remain for the rest of the year. Allies and the LGBTQ+ community gather to enjoy offerings from more than 50 vendors, food trucks, local restaurants and bars.



Berkeley Springs Pride 2023
Photos taken from:
berkeleyspringspride.org

40

Grab a Snowtube

Feel the wind on your face and an adrenaline rush as you race your friends down a snow hill. At **Snow Riders Tubing Hill**, located in historic Harpers Ferry, there are 12 different tubing lanes so you can race to your heart's content—and feel like a kid again. The hill is almost the length of three football fields, making it the longest tubing slope on the East Coast. And kids can get in on the action, too! Snow Riders offers a special course for children under 36 inches — gentle lanes for tiny tots. And the fun doesn't stop at the tubing area. Snow Riders has an on-site taco food truck that serves up delicious fare and hot chocolate. There is also a retail shop with souvenir shirts, hats, beer and snacks. Spend the day or come for the evening "Downhill Disco" lightshow experience. For more information, visit snowriders.com.

41

Take in a Live Show

The West Virginia panhandle is home to several community theaters that put on top-notch shows in historic venues. The **Old Opera House** in Charles Town dates back to 1911 and puts on six musicals per year, plus a children's show, theatre camps and a one-act play competition and performance. This summer, be sure and catch the ballet "Coppélia" and the family musical "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." Opened only three years later in Martinsburg, the **Apollo Civic Theatre** boasts an eclectic history of movie screenings and live performances, and is considered a local landmark. Local groups rent the space for various live performances, and the Apollo itself puts on five shows per year. Visitors who enjoy a spooky experience can book a group paranormal investigation year-round to meet the theater's two reported ghosts. If new shows are what you're after, don't miss the **Contemporary American Theater Festival** at Shepherd University, running this year from July 5-28. Over the course of its history, the festival has premiered nearly 150 new plays, with several going on to Broadway runs or film adaptations.

42

Take a Day and Treat Yourself

Marigold Healing Center, located in Charles Town, WV, offers a holistic approach to wellness through its Energy Enhancement System (EESystem), which utilizes scalar energy to promote healing, relaxation, and regeneration. The center provides a serene environment with amenities such as zero-gravity chairs, yoga classes, and various healing modalities to support mental, physical, and spiritual well-being.





C-17 Globemaster III at NATO Days.
Photo courtesy of Creative Commons.

43 Take Flight

An often-overlooked historical landmark in the Eastern Panhandle, the Martinsburg Airport (Eastern West Virginia Regional Airport/Shepherd Field) has been open since 1923. It's the largest airfield in West Virginia and while the records are unclear, it might be the state's oldest continually operating airfield. The airport's onsite restaurant, Katara's Crosswinds Cafe, offers a meal with a view unlike any other in the area. The airport is the home of the 167th Airlift Wing of the West Virginia Air National Guard. As a result, the C-17 Globemaster III, a jumbo aircraft, can regularly be seen taking off and landing. There's also a lot of history in the airport's terminal building, where artifacts include a Berkeley Aviation Club membership card signed by Amelia Earhart. There are also airshows and other events held at the airfield.

44

Buckle Up for a Thrill

Live motorsports aren't just for Daytona or Indianapolis! Motorcycle, kart, and road races happen regularly at the **Summit Point Motorsports Park** in Ranson. The four tracks, which have played host to professional drivers and to thrill-seeking celebrities like Tom Cruise, feature around 40 events per year. Multiple clubs and programs allow driving aficionados to try the tracks for themselves as well. For beginners, the one-day accident-avoidance class gives you the chance to hit the tracks and learn how to handle common road hazards like a pro. At Hedgesville's **Tomohawk MX**, watch races throughout the summer and fall, or bring your bike and ride yourself on the three tracks, including a kids' track, during a practice day.



Photo courtesy
of Fleur de Lis
Cheese Shop

45 Treat Yourself to Gourmet Food

For international gourmet foods, Berkeley Springs is a great place to start! Those who fancy a good charcuterie will savor **Fleur de Lis Cheese Shop**, which sources its artisan meats and cheeses from around Europe. Be sure to check out their homemade jams, order-ahead charcuterie boards and charcuterie design classes, too. Just down the street, **The Naked Olive** sells more than 60 flavor-infused oils and vinegars from their tasting gallery. Create your own healthy dressing or pick from the store's selection of barbeque sauces, tapenades and other food items. Coffee lovers will want to make a pilgrimage to **Black Dog Coffee** in Shenandoah Junction. Known across the region for its beans, house-roasted in a 1931 machine, the shop sells coffee drinks and a variety of foods from local vendors.

46 Experience Local Cuisine

Feeling a little spicy? Thai Martinsburg Restaurant offers authentic Thai food and drinks. This Thai restaurant will prepare its dishes to your preferred level of spice. For German cuisine, there's none better than the Bavarian Inn in Shepherdstown. Since purchasing the inn in 1977, the owners, Erwin and Carol Asam, have had to expand their dining room several times and have received many AAA's Four Diamond awards. Another must-visit is Alfredo's Mediterranean in Charles Town. Alfredo's masterfully combines the cuisine of Spain, France, Italy,

Greece, Lebanon, and Morocco into one menu, while providing top-notch service. The Cider Press Grill in Inwood, located inside Taylor's Farm Market, offers a farm-to-table experience that's hard to beat. Firebox 55 in Martinsburg, WV, serves up creative, house-smoked barbecue favorites like brisket and pulled pork, paired with bold sides and signature sandwiches that highlight gourmet Appalachian flavors. Panagiota's Taste of Greece in Shepherdstown offers a delightful fusion of traditional and modern Greek cuisine.



48 Relax in Hot Springs

Need a break from it all? Your salvation might just be in Berkeley Springs, where the naturally occurring warm mineral springs, which maintain a constant temperature of 74.3 degrees, have been a source of rejuvenation for centuries.

When George Washington was in the area, he was known to have frequented the springs as the town developed a reputation as a spa destination, which remains to this day, as Berkeley Springs attracts visitors from all over the country. The center of hot spring activity in the town is Berkeley Springs State Park, where the Main Bathhouse includes walk-in Roman baths and private tub rooms filled with the town's renowned

47 Bring on the Fun

For those who'd like a physical challenge, there are plenty of options in and around the Eastern Panhandle. There are marathons, half marathons, eight-hour endurance runs and a run that features mud-caked obstacles.

The Harpers Ferry half-marathon and 5K is held in May. This year's edition will be held on May 18. Get ready for a challenge with plenty of hills running through scenic Harpers Ferry and the countryside, complete with views of rivers and the mountains. Scheduled for Aug. 17, the **Harpers Ferry Miner's Lady 8-Hour Race** is an event where you can push yourself to the limit. Although the event is primarily for women, men can also participate. The point is to see how many 6.2-mile loops you can complete in eight hours. The terrain will include rolling hills, water crossings, single track and gravel. At the **Antietam Brewery 5k Beer Mile & Taco Mile** run, you can run a normal 5k race, or if you're ready to mix it up, you can run the Beer Mile where you drink a 12-ounce beer at the beginning of four laps. Not a drinker? There's also a taco mile, where you eat a taco at the beginning of each lap. This race is held in May each year. This year's date is May 11. Bored with just running? At the **Muddy Mamas Mud Run**, you can take on a 5k untimed run designed for women of all fitness levels. Expect plenty of mud and obstacles with this one. The event consists of individuals or teams of women who compete together to complete challenges. Participants will start the event in waves to ensure a smooth flow of traffic.



Photo courtesy from muddymamasmudrun.com

mineral water. In addition, the **Old Roman Bathhouse**, a historic structure, includes private bathing rooms. There is an outdoor pool filled with heated mineral water, but it's only open seasonally.

It's a good idea to book your time early as space is limited a list of prices and tips on how to book can be found at wvstateparks.com/park/berkeley-springs-state-park/

Several spas, including **Atasia and Country Inn Renaissance Spa** to name a few, offer massage and bathing experiences utilizing the mineral spring water.

49 Summer Camps for Kids

As the days grow longer and school lets out, it's the perfect time for kids to dive into some serious summer fun! Fortunately, our local community offers a wide variety of exciting summer camp opportunities to keep children engaged, active, and entertained. Both **Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks and Rec** and **Jefferson County Parks and Rec** host camps packed with activities like swimming, skating, arts & crafts, sports, mini-golf, local park visits, and even trips to the cinema. For kids who love the outdoors, **River Riders** offers an Outdoor Adventure Camp full of nature-based thrills like tubing and ziplining.

If your child is into tech, **Code Ninjas Eastern Panhandle** has a range of summer coding camps that combine fun with valuable STEM learning. For the performers at heart, **Adagio Academy of the Performing Arts** hosts dance camps where kids can move, groove, and express themselves creatively. Budding athletes can step up their game at **BMO Elite Performance's** baseball and softball camps, where skills are sharpened and teamwork is celebrated.

Beyond these camps, many programs include fun extras like movie outings, gymnastics sessions, and hands-on creative projects. And for families looking for faith-based options, there are several Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) across the region that offer a great mix of spiritual learning and classic summer fun.

With so many camps catering to such a wide range of interests—from sports and arts to technology and outdoor adventure—there's truly something for every child. So, don't let boredom creep in! Get out, explore, and help your kids make memories that will last a lifetime. This summer is shaping up to be the best one yet!



50 Time to Tee Up

Golfing represents the best combination of an escape to nature and the challenge of a game that Mark Twain once described as a 'good walk spoiled.' There are quite a few courses in the Eastern Panhandle to suit differing skill levels and budgets. **The Woods** in Hedgesville offers a complete golf experience with clubhouse, resort lodging, and two golf courses. For a tee-time, visit: thewoods.com/golf.

Locust Hill Golf Course, located in Charles Town, is another convenient option. The course also teams up with hotels in Charles Town for 'Stay and Play' packages. More information can be found at locusthill-golfcourse.com.

The golf course at **Cacapon State Park** was designed by legendary architect Robert Trent Jones and is complete with 72 holes, and four sets of tees.

If you are looking for a more budget-friendly experience, visit **Woodbrier Golf Course** in Martinsburg, no tee times are needed, and the prices are fixed.

The VanMetre 9 at Stonebridge in Martinsburg has plans to open a nine-hole course this year and to add another nine holes soon. As for this printing, there's a driving range and a full-service restaurant.

Shepherdstown's Cress Creek is the only private golf club in the Eastern Panhandle.



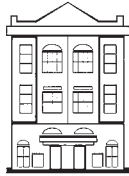
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Enjoy Classic Theatre

The Apollo Civic Theatre, located at 128 E. Martin Street in downtown Martinsburg, West Virginia, is a historic venue that has been a cornerstone of the community's cultural life for over a century. Designed by architects Reginald Geare and Chapman E. Kent, the theatre opened its doors in 1914, originally serving as a venue for silent films and vaudeville performances. Over the years, it has hosted a variety of events, including concerts, plays, and community gatherings, solidifying its status as a beloved local institution.

In 1975, the Berkeley County Civic Theatre (BCCT) purchased the building to preserve its historical significance and continue its legacy as a performance space. The theatre was subsequently added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. In 1987, it was renamed the Apollo Civic Theatre, reflecting its enduring role in the community. Today, the theatre operates as a nonprofit organization, offering a diverse array of performances, including a six-show season, a youth summer theatre workshop, and various community events.

The Apollo Civic Theatre is currently undergoing a comprehensive revitalization to enhance its facilities while preserving its historic charm. Their most recent project showcases a new and beautiful marquee.



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Enjoy a Movie and some History

If you're looking to enjoy a movie and take a step back in time, there are a couple of good options in and around the Panhandle. The first would be to head to Berkeley Springs and see a movie at the **Historic Star Theatre**, which is one of the oldest in the state. The Star was originally built as an automotive garage in 1916 before it transitioned to a movie theater in 1928. While the Manley hot oil popcorn machine remains from 1949, the theater upgraded to digital in 2013. Another interesting experience can be found in Stephens City, Va., at the **Family Drive-In Theatre**, one of the few of its kind left anywhere. Movies are updated each Monday, and the show goes on rain or shine. Audio for the movies is broadcast to your car's radio. Berkeley Plaza Theatre 7 in Martinsburg, is a family-owned cinema offering seven screens and first-run movies at affordable prices, making it a popular choice for budget-conscious moviegoers.



Berkeley Springs' historic Star Theatre.
Photo by Emily Keefer

Thurmont



Gateway to the Mountains

*E*xplore the hiking trails at Catoctin Mountain Park, enjoy Cunningham Falls State Park where you will find the largest cascading waterfall in Maryland, experience Covered Bridge History, take a stroll down Main Street, take a walk down the Trolley 'Trail, unwind at one of our scenic wineries/breweries, savor the freshness of our farmers markets, and orchards; enjoy local flavors at our restaurants.



Historic Main Street



3 Wineries



Farmers Markets



Canoeing at Cunningham Falls



Catoctin Wildlife Preserve



3 Covered Bridges



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