



Welcome to **MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY**



**VISIT MOUNTAINEER
COUNTRY.***com*



@VISITMOUNTAINEERCOUNTRY



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LOCATION & TRAVEL

MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY

Mountaineer Country is the hub of North-Central West Virginia. Comprised of a 7-county region, the Visit Mountaineer Country Convention and Visitors Bureau represents Monongalia, Preston, and Taylor counties, equipping the destination with the perfect blend of urban and rural, history and culture, and so much more.

AIRPORTS



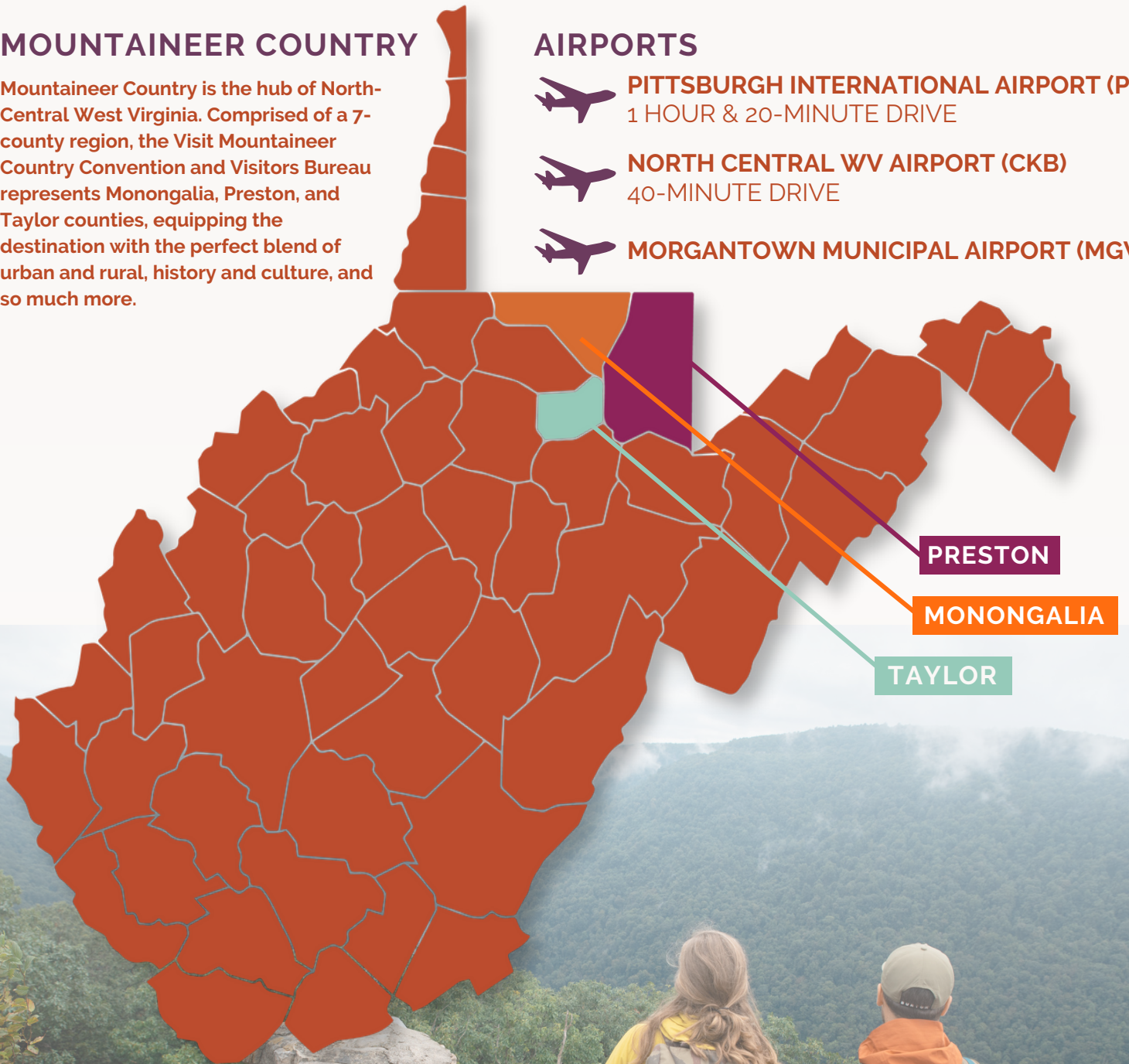
PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (PIT)
1 HOUR & 20-MINUTE DRIVE



NORTH CENTRAL WV AIRPORT (CKB)
40-MINUTE DRIVE



MORGANTOWN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT (MGW)



PRESTON

MONONGALIA

TAYLOR



LODGING HIGHLIGHTS

HOTEL EXPERIENCE

From boutique hotels to flagship properties and all-inclusive stays, Mountaineer Country has a variety of lodging accommodations to make every guest feel right at home. Plan your perfect getaway, starting with where you'll recharge after a day's adventure. For more lodging properties, visit <https://www.visitmountaineercountry.com/stay/>.

THE COURTYARD MARRIOTT



THE HOTEL MORGAN



THE MORGANTOWN MARRIOTT AT WATERFRONT PLACE



DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

COOPERS ROCK STATE FOREST

A local favorite and a hidden gem for tourists, the "Instagrammable" Coopers Rock State Forest extends 12,747 acres through Monongalia and Preston counties. This destination offers a variety of hiking trails, rock climbing, biking, cross-country skiing, fishing, bird watching, camping, and many more recreational activities. If you want a 360-degree view of WV's natural beauty, look no further than Coopers Rock overlook.



WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Morgantown, WV is home to over 25,000 students that currently attend West Virginia University. As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University are committed to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances education, healthcare and prosperity for all in the area. WVU continues to grow and has students from every county in WV, every state in the U.S., and 107 different countries. WVU is home to 65 majors and combines the personal attention of a small college with the benefits of a major university.



ARTHURDALE, WV

Established in 1933, Arthurdale is the nation's first New Deal Homestead Community. Created through President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal legislation, the community provided a new chance at life for residents who were suffering from the Great Depression. Today, Arthurdale is a National Historic District featuring 160 of the 165 original homesteads. The New Deal Homestead Museum is a multibuilding museum that celebrate and shares the rich community's history that Arthurdale, WV offers.



RAIL-TRAILS OF NORTH CENTRAL WV

Former railroad lines converted to trails offer tremendous opportunities for recreation and adventure. These trails are generally flat and vary from paved surfaces to crushed limestone. Mountaineer Country is home to 51 miles of trails including: the Caperton, Decker's Creek, Mon River North and South, Cheat Lake, MC, and West Fork Trail. Looking for a whole different point of view? Float or boat the Upper Monongahela River, the first water trail for recreational boaters in West Virginia that stretches over 65 miles.



AUDRA STATE PARK

Audra State Park is a hidden gem of natural wonders, tucked away just south of Philippi, West Virginia, on the border of Barbour and Upshur Counties. First established by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, this 335-acre park is now covered in wooded trails and campgrounds. Each year, visitors are drawn to the natural beauty of the Middle Fork and its surroundings, which offers opportunities for hiking, camping and family picnics. Audra State Park is open year-round, offering amenities and adventure, perfect for families and weekend explorers.



THE ULTIMATE MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY POUR TOUR



STOP 1: Start at [Mountaineer Roasting Co.](#) for some of the best coffee in the Mountain State, and even grab a beer before your next stop!

STOP 2: When the season's right, sit on the rooftop patio at [River View and Brew.](#) If rain hits, take a break with coffee at [River Birch Café.](#)

STOP 3: Walk next door and curb your hunger at one of the largest full-scale microbreweries and distributors in the state, [Mountain State Brewing Company.](#) Sit outdoors and take in the views of the Caperton Trail, or grab a bike and pedal over to [Morgantown Brewing Company.](#)

STOP 4: [Morgantown Brewing Company](#) is WV's oldest operating brewery located on the historic waterfront in downtown Morgantown. This brewpub is beloved by locals and entrenched in Morgantown's historic culture.

STOP 1: Situated right on the rail trail in Star City, [Terra Café](#) is Morgantown's go-to spot for delicious breakfast smoothies, pastries and coffee. Their locally focused tap list, relaxed, casual vibe, and outdoor patio make Terra a great place to begin your day.

STOP 2: Discover the world of craft beer next at [Screech Owl Brewing](#) and [Spent Grain Café.](#) Try a flight of beer, take a growler home with you to enjoy and share, or snack on one of their breads that are baked on site and made using the spent grain from their brewing process. Want to really live like a local?

STOP 3: [Chestnut Brew Works](#) is a small brewery nestled in historic South Park area of Morgantown, WV that offers artisanal ales and locally crafted beer. After this, discover a hidden treasure tucked away in Terra Alta,

STOP 4: [High Ground Brewing.](#) Their rotating tap list and outdoor seating make it the perfect place to end a full day of adventure.



STOP 1: Head south to Marion County to continue your brew tour adventure. [The Joe](#) is a coffee house based in the heart of downtown Fairmont offering unique flavors, craft brews, and delicious bites. After visiting this Fairmont staple, walk over to another local favorite,

STOP 2: [The Rambling Root](#) has more than 29 different WV drafts and an eclectic Americana menu that incorporates locally produced food as much as possible. '

STOP 3: If you're looking for a larger selection of tasty menu items, [Stone Tower Brews](#) in Fairmont has you covered. They serve local, high-quality coffee and craft beer, plus a menu of chicken & pork tacos, nachos, wraps, salads, and more.

STOP 4: End your pour tour extravaganza at [Short Story Brewing](#) in Rivesville. This family-owned craft brewery is known for its selection of IPAs, top-notch brewing, and tap choices. Close your tab here and get ready to begin your next Mountaineer Country adventure!

ICONIC DESTINATIONS IN MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY



DAY 1

STOP 1: Discover new adventures as you experience the [Rail Trails of North Central WV](#). The Caperton Trail in Morgantown offers over 5 miles of paved surface perfect for roller-blading, strolling, and biking. Rent a bike from [Wamsley Cycles](#) for easy trail access.

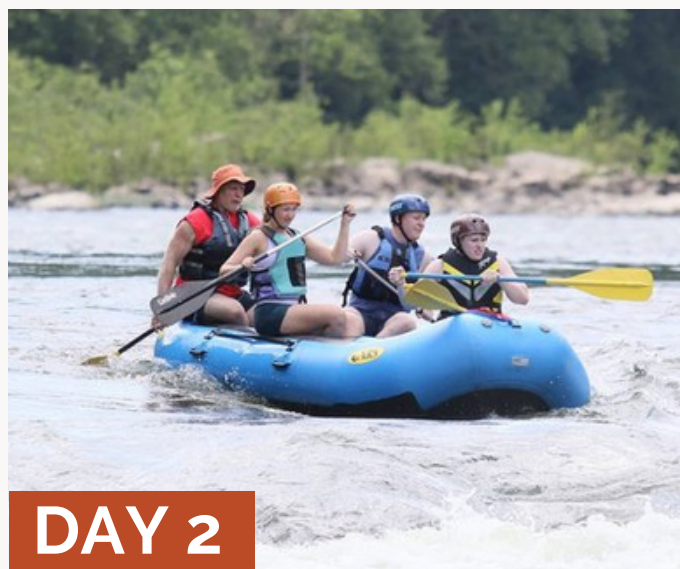
STOP 2: Visit a local favorite, [Coopers Rock State Forest](#). The park features canyon overlooks, historic sites, picnic shelters, 50 miles of hiking and biking trails, sandstone cliffs for climbing or bouldering, cross-country ski terrain, a lake made for reeling in trout, and a nearby river for rafting.

STOP 3: If you'd rather spend time in the air, a drive across the bridge from Coopers Rock and you will journey through the forest to [Adventure WV Outdoor Education Center](#), which is home to the [WVU Zip-Line Canopy Tour](#). Enjoy a rustic stay at [Mountain Creek Cabins](#) after.

STOP 1: Located just south of Fairmont, WV, is [Valley Falls State Park](#). Here, you can gawk at each set of falls from the riverside, cautiously climb atop one of the shoreline boulders, choose from one of the eight hiking and mountain biking trails, cast your line, kayak, or enjoy a low-key picnic.

STOP 2: After this, if you're looking to find more adventure along the Tygart Valley River you can venture south to [Tygart Lake State Park](#). Tygart Lake is open to swimming, fishing and boating in its crystal-clear waters, with the Marina open season taking place between May and September. The forest surrounding the lake is filled with five trails perfect for walking, hiking, and exploring nature. For more fun, head to [Tygart Adventure Lake](#) and make a splash with twenty-five giant inflatables on the water, or catch some sun from a lounge chair on the beach.

STOP 3: Spend the night at [Tygart Lake Lodge](#), [Tygart Lake Cabins](#), or pitch a tent at the campgrounds.



DAY 2



DAY 3

STOP 1: For more Mountaineer Country adventure, drive to [Audra State Park](#). This heavily wooded area is located on the border of Barbour and Upshur Counties. There are two main trails available to hikers and mountain bikers alike, but follow along the [Alum Cave Trail](#) for a more picturesque view of the [Middle Fork River](#). If hiking isn't for you, dip your toes in one of the designated swimming areas, grab a paddle, or get your bait ready for a day of fishing.

STOP 2: Just 35 miles south in [Upshur County](#) is the [West Virginia State Wildlife Center](#). This is a modern zoo facility that you can walk through and explore various state wildlife. Operated by an institution under the [West Virginia Division of Natural Resources](#), this center prides itself on real factual information regarding the animals that they care for. You can walk through over one mile of forest and watch animals interact in their enclosures as they normally would in the wild. In addition to the unique tour, there is also a large wooded picnic area with grills and a shelter for gathering.

A FOODIE'S TASTE OF ALMOST HEAVEN



DAY 1

You can't visit West Virginia without trying a pepperoni roll, so why not spend the whole day figuring out who has the best one in Mountaineer Country?

STOP 1: The delicious treat is available in many variations. Some Morgantown local favorites are [Mid-Atlantic Market](#), [Terra Cafe](#), and [Phoenix Bakery](#).

STOP 2: [Chico's Bakery](#) offers the official pepperoni roll of the West Virginia University Mountaineers.

STOP 3: After finding your favorite in Morgantown, venture to Fairmont and try [Collesanos](#) or [Country Club Bakery](#) which is home to the original pepperoni roll.

STOP 1: After eating an Almost Heaven classic, venture to Downtown Morgantown for a day of shopping and bites. Grab breakfast at [Zeke's Breakfast & Bakes](#), [The Grind](#), or [Blue Moose Cafe](#) for a wonderful array of freshly-baked goods, coffee, and full breakfast menus.

STOP 2: Once you're full, browse through local shops for WVU gear, WV memorabilia, and locally-made goodies. Some Morgantown Mainstreet favorites include [Hoot and Howl](#), [Gallery 304](#), [River Fair Trade](#), and [The Old Stone House](#).

STOP 3: Spend the night at [Hotel Morgan](#), a newly renovated, historic hotel in Downtown Morgantown. Grab a breakfast or handhelds at [Anvil + Ax](#), a relaxed European coffee shop and evening cocktail bar. Part classic, part retro, part modern, this hotel bar brings a unique twist to the drinks and dining scene in Morgantown, WV.



DAY 2

STOP 1: Close out your Almost Heaven foodie tour with a day of farm-to-table food. Go back to the Warf in Morgantown for a unique brunch at [Morgantown Flour and Feed](#). Order their charcuterie breakfast board for a trio of waffles, pancakes, and french toast, or indulge in their fruit and honey platter for a fresh breakfast.

STOP 2: If you want to experience something new, [Terra Café](#) has an award-winning brunch menu and riverfront views, as well. This establishment takes fresh ingredients from [Round Right Farm](#) and [Possum Tail Farm](#), located in Preston County, and creates quality, unique dishes to satisfy every craving.

STOP 3: If the season's right, go pick your own at one of our many U-pick farms. Choose from [Blueberry Ridge Farms](#), [Black Cat Pumpkin Patch](#), [Sterns Berry Farm](#), or one of the many farm stands in the area. Finish your day at [Sargasso](#), a chic eatery known for the vast wine collection and open kitchen, or a local favorite for happy hour and burgers, [Table 9](#).



DAY 3

THE TIMELESS HISTORY & CULTURE OF MOUNTAINEER COUNTRY



Mountaineer Country's heritage is reflected in its architecture, artwork, cuisine, and celebrations. There is no shortage of ways to discover the many facets of the region's history and spend days exploring the art and culture that Greater Morgantown has to offer.

STOP 1: The Art Museum of West Virginia University is a great place to start. Walk through touring exhibits that include paintings, prints, works on paper, sculptures, ceramics, and folk art.

STOP 2: Roam through downtown and the surrounding area to catch historic statues including Don Knotts, a JFK Memorial, Jerry West, and Hot Rod Hudley. While you're there, catch a show at The Metropolitan Theatre, a venue in downtown Morgantown showing plays, films, and more all in a historic building.

Museums and war reenactments will take you back in time as you tour various battle sites and historic towns in Preston County!

STOP 1: Visit a tourist favorite that was one of the first planned communities of the New Deal, Arthurdale, WV. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt fostered the community in the 1930s which is often referenced as, "Eleanor's Little Village." Arthurdale Heritage holds events, festivals, and tours, to maintain the rich history of the area.

STOP 2: History buffs must visit Historic Rowlesburg, a major railroad link during the Civil War. The Rowlesburg Railroad and World War II Museums are open to the public to educate visitors on critical war battles that occurred in Preston County.

STOP 3: End your history-filled day with a walk down the Civil War Trail and stop along the way at one of the largest and most historic cemeteries in Mountaineer Country, The Grafton National Cemetery.



Just north of Fairmont, Prickett's Fort Memorial State Park brings a full day of fun for the entire family.

It is a 188-acre state park featuring a reconstructed refuge fort that was originally constructed in 1774 to provide early settlers protection from Native American attacks. Throughout their touring season, you'll find blacksmiths, spinners, weavers, and so many other artisans at work.

One of the more popular reenactments is found in the gun shop where you'll see public deportations of 18th-century firearm manufacturing. Outside of the fort tours, you can enjoy visiting the original 19th century Job Prickett House, Prickett Cemetery, Visitor Center, and Museum Gift Shop, or set up a picnic and walk over 3 miles of trails offered. Either walk or bike these trailheads that provide rail trail access to both the **MC trail** and the **Mon River Trail South** to Morgantown. You can find bike rentals in the Visitors Center during their business hours.

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



DAY 1

STOP 1: The Aquatic Center at Mylan Park is the perfect place to make memories. Their community pool offers 6 lap lanes, 4 water slides, various water play features, and a seasonal outdoor splash pad, all allowing your family to swim while taking in the stunning mountain views.

STOP 2: After making a splash, head to The WOW! Factory for a day of painting your own pottery, mosaic, or glass fusing.

STOP 3: Next, stop by a Mountaineer Country hidden gem, Spark! Imagination and Science Center. Explore science through various hands-on exhibits as the whole family digs for dinosaur fossils, investigates nanoscience, discovers Space Weather, and so much more.

If you are visiting April through October, Hovatter's Wildlife Zoo is perfect for a wildlife adventure. Your family will have the opportunity to feed giraffes, goats, and lemurs, ride camels, and even see exotic animals. This West Virginia Zoo is home to over 30 different species of native and exotic animals from all over the world.

Hovatter's Wildlife Zoo holds one of the largest collections of exotic and native animals in the state of West Virginia, including white tigers, ringtail lemurs, chimpanzees, and giraffes. Stop by, feed over half of the animals, and make dozens of unforgettable experiences with your family.

If you're lucky enough to be there during the holiday season, "**Wild Lights at the Zoo**" is a must-see event. Load up the car with your family and friends, stop by their drive-thru concession stand, and enjoy a 3/4-mile drive through a beautiful, bright holiday-light display.



DAY 2



DAY 3

Stop 1: Spend the last day cooling off at Tygart Lake State Park's brand-new adventure lake. Tygart Adventure Lake features 25 giant inflatables and a sandy beach area with lounge chairs. Race each other to the top of the towering 14-foot iceberg, glide down the floating slide, and fly into the air on their floating trampoline. Whether you and your family are just looking to catch some rays or want to seek more adventure in the water, this is the place for families to have the most fun you'll have all summer long.

Stop 2: If you're not interested in jumping, diving, or cannonballing into the lake, Tygart Lake Cruises has you covered. Depart from Tygart Lake Marina for a peaceful cruise around the lake. Choose between historical cruises, pirate-themed adventures, and dinner cruises, or inquire about private cruises and boat rentals.

25 FREE THINGS TO DO



Coopers Rock Overlook

Cathedral State Park

Covered Bridge Tour

Dorseys Knob Park

Tug Boat Depot

Allegheny Treenware

WV Botanic Garden Crimson

Shamrock Ranch

Tygart Lake State Park

Arthurdale

Cranesville Swamp

Valley Falls State Park

Walk the Rail-Trail

WVU Core Arboretum

Downtown Mural Tour

The Tug Boat Depot

Caperton Trail

WVU Planetarium

Kayak Decker's Creek

Tour the WWII Museum

Walk Cheat Lake Trail

Art Museum of WVU

Tour the McGrew House

Old Iron Furnace

Almost Heaven Swing at Coopers

Rock State Forest



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