This publication was created and is distributed in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration, the Maryland State Highway Administration and the Maryland Office of Tourism.
Dear Traveler,

In today's fast-paced lifestyle, we often don't have the time to take the road less traveled to reach our destinations. The Maryland Scenic Byways Guidebook and Map is designed to steer you away from Maryland's interstates and highways to an exciting network of scenic byways just brimming with antique rows, early-morning farmers' markets, wineries and a host of historic sites and attractions.

Maryland's network of byways has been created to take you, our guest, through the state's most spectacular scenery, picturesque towns and landscapes that are woven into the fabric of our nation's history. Choose from 19 unique byways that touch every corner of our state and let you experience our state's scenic beauty, history and culture.

Among the itineraries is a byway leading to the mouth of the Patuxent River where an historic water battle took place, which leads you to where the red glare of rockets cascaded over Fort McHenry, inspiring Francis Scott Key to pen our National Anthem. Other byways will take you to St. Mary's City, Maryland's first capital, where tolerance was integral to its founding, and to the farms and trails on the Eastern Shore where the daring Harriet Tubman led courageous enslaved people to freedom.

I am proud that three of Maryland's scenic byways have earned the highest distinction by being named into the collection of America's Byways. This designation recognizes these routes for their scenic, cultural and historic significance. The three impressive routes will take you to Chesapeake Country, or out to Western Maryland on the Historic National Road and through the Catoctin Mountains.

Whatever route you choose, I encourage you to take advantage of Maryland's outstanding scenery and enjoy the ride on Maryland's byways.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor
Two centuries ago, the easiest way for settlers to cross the Appalachian Mountains and go west was on the dirt and cobblestone-covered National Road, America’s first federally funded highway. The National Road began in 1806 to open trade and communication with the growing frontier in the Ohio River Valley. Today you can travel Maryland’s portion of this road from Baltimore to Western Maryland, stopping to enjoy the inns, taverns and shops that have survived from the road’s heyday.

The hardwood forests encircling Catoctin Mountain are a natural wonderment, serving as a sanctuary for plants and wildlife, and surrounding towns offer a deep exploration of the area’s rich industrial heritage.

Maryland has designated 19 byways that encompass 2,487 miles of beautiful roads, which offer a taste of Maryland’s scenic beauty, history and culture. Take the roads less traveled including four entirely new byways featuring nationally significant themes: the Star-Spangled Banner, Antietam Campaign, Booth’s Escape and the Mason and Dixon byways.

**AMERICA’S BYWAYS**

America’s Byways® are a collection of routes recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation as the most significant routes throughout the country, based on their scenery, culture, history, archaeology, and recreational opportunities. Follow a Maryland Byway that has earned this national distinction:

1. Historic National Road
2. Mountain Maryland
3. Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
4. Antietam Campaign
5. Catoctin Mountain
6. Old Main Streets
7. Mason and Dixon
8. Falls Road
9. Horses and Hounds
10. Lower Susquehanna
11. Charles Street
12. National Historic Seaport
13. Star-Spangled Banner
14. Booth’s Escape
15. Roots and Tides
16. Religious Freedom Tour
17. Chesapeake Country
18. Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad
19. Blue Crab

**Historic National Road**

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**Catoctin Mountain**

The hardwood forests encircling Catoctin Mountain are a natural wonderment, serving as a sanctuary for plants and wildlife, and surrounding towns offer a deep exploration of the area’s rich industrial heritage.
The mountain’s old paths and roads trace a variety of traditional Appalachian entrepreneurial endeavors, including farms, sawmills and the making of moonshine. Travelers today enjoy miles of hiking and biking trails and views of Cunningham Falls.

Chesapeake Country

Explore the Chesapeake landscape that has shaped its watermen lifestyle. Your journey takes you past fertile farmland graced by handsome — often historic — manor houses. You enter small historic waterfront villages rich with art, culture and pure country charm, and then slip through secluded spots surrounded by unspoiled nature. Pristine waterways and relaxing bay vistas are a treat for the senses.

MARYLAND’S HERITAGE AREAS

A Rich Heritage

The byways are a great avenue to explore Maryland’s Heritage Areas. While traveling along Maryland’s Byways, you’ll uncover rich historical and cultural heritage throughout 11 Maryland Heritage Areas. Historic preservation goes hand in hand with protecting and promoting our state’s natural beauty within the Heritage Areas. In each area, citizens have put forth effort to ensure that the journeys you take with this guide are historically and culturally unforgettable for years to come.
Two centuries ago, the easiest way for thousands of settlers to cross the Appalachian Mountains and go west was on the dirt, macadam and cobblestone-covered National Road, America’s first federally funded highway. Horse-drawn Conestoga wagons lugged building materials and supplies, while families rode stagecoaches and carriages, stopping frequently along the way to take advantage of friendly towns that quickly sprouted inns, taverns, blacksmith shops and wagon yards.

Congress approved funding for the interstate highway in 1806 to open up trade and communication with the growing frontier in the Ohio River Valley, but four decades of hard labor were required to complete the project from Baltimore all the way through to Vandalia, Illinois. Soon after, however, the sight of train tracks signaled a shift in transportation priorities.

Today’s adventurers enjoy traveling 170 miles along Maryland’s portion of this All-American Road, seeing the highway as it progressed west (rather than following the eastward course of most other byways in this guide). While passing through cozy towns featuring attractions, eateries and accommodations that hearken back to the road’s earliest days, feel free to romanticize about life as it was for those first, rugged pioneers.

The Historic National Road also passes through three Maryland Heritage Areas: Baltimore City, Heart of Civil War (in Frederick) and Canal Place (in Cumberland).
Baltimore to Frederick – Lombard Street, MD 144, MD 27 & MD 144

The Baltimore to Cumberland portion of the road, designated the Baltimore National Pike, begins at water’s edge in the Inner Harbor area, where you are also linked to the Charles Street and National Historic Seaport byways (pages 89 and 97, respectively). Follow Lombard Street west and stop at the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, located at the site of the oldest railroad station in the country. Pass through several historic neighborhoods, including Union Square, which journalist H.L. Mencken called home. While leaving Baltimore, you pass many National Pike-era hotels, taverns and warehouses before crossing the Gwynns Falls Greenway, which is an excursion through natural landscapes and historical landmarks on a 14-mile paved hike and bike trail.

West of the city along MD 144 (Frederick Road) is the National Historic District of Catonsville, which was developed in 1810 and became a hot spot for summer homes when linked to downtown Baltimore by electric trolley lines. Before crossing the Patapsco River, drive through the town of Oella, which still contains old stone and brick buildings that once housed textile and
Manor, which is more than just kid’s stuff: A 43-acre park featuring early American gardens and an orchard surround an elegant, 18th-century Georgian mansion, the former home of Maryland’s first elected governor, Thomas Johnson. The town also features every form of entertainment from dinner theater to minor-league baseball, and it is the first of three “Arts & Entertainment Districts” found along this route. At the end of a long day, one of Frederick’s inns or bed and breakfasts is a welcome sight. Rest up, because you’ll be heading for the mountains in the morning.

Enjoy the awe-inspiring view from Braddock Heights before heading down into the farming village of Middletown. This part of the Historic National Road byway also overlaps with the Antietam Campaign byway (page 39) as you pass Civil War markers within South Mountain State Park and enter Boonsboro. Make time for a sidetrip into Washington Monument State Park, site of the first monument erected in George Washington’s honor. The park also happens to be located along the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in the Cumberland Valley, a noted migratory bird flyway, so bring your binoculars.

Continuing west on US 40 Alternate, the farmland of Funkstown is dotted with Pennsylvania-Dutch bank barns and smaller English-style structures. You will pass historic hotels, restaurants and taverns that hosted National Road travelers as you make your way toward Frederick. Throughout the journey, you can visit Francis Scott Key’s law office and the National Museum of Civil War Medicine before moving on to the Children’s Museum of Rose Hill.
Hagerstown to Cumberland – Frederick, Baltimore, Locust and Franklin Streets, US 40, I-70, MD 144, Scenic US 40, MD 144, I-68, Baltimore St, Henderson Ave

In Hagerstown, US 40 Alternate becomes Frederick Street and reveals a vivid glimpse of America’s transportation past. So many early railroad companies were linked into Hagerstown that it earned the nickname “Hub City”. It is also a major crossroads for east-west and north-south traffic through the Cumberland Valley. The town features the South Prospect Street Historic District, which has a roundhouse museum among several other sites dedicated to preserving the town’s rich history. Hagerstown is also a hub of culture and creativity, earning it the distinction of being the second of “Arts & Entertainment Districts” found along the Historic National Road. Continue west on US 40 through a region of large, mid-19th-century farms and homesteads, and look for the small waterfront park on the Conococheague River that offers a fine view of the Wilson Bridge. Dating from 1819 and poised upon five stone arches, it’s the oldest and longest bridge of its kind in Washington County. Pass through Wilson, site of the 160-year-old Wilson’s General Store/One Room Schoolhouse, and head toward Clear Spring where you can side-track south along MD 68 and 56 to Fort Frederick State Park. The fort, based in Big Pool, has been restored to its 1758 appearance, when it was the corner-stone of Maryland’s defense during the French & Indian War.

Next in line is Hancock, an important link to the C&O Canal byway (page 27), and where the Western Maryland Rail Trail parallels the C&O Canal to offer panoramic vistas of the Potomac River. A national historic park visitor’s center offers a close look at canal life. After a scenic climb up Sideling Hill, which was the scene of many stagecoach mishaps due to the steep turns, enjoy the view from Town Hill where you can see into three states at once. Then stop for a relaxing round of golf amid the ridges and valleys of Rocky Gap State Park near Flintstone. Another option is a challenging bike ride through Green Ridge State Forest.

Cumberland to State Line – US 40 Alt, US 40

Road, railway and canal come together in Cumberland. It’s also a cross-roads for three state byways, as the Historic National Road mingles once again with the C&O Canal. The Western Maryland Rail Trail parallels the C&O Canal to offer panoramic vistas of the Potomac River. A national historic park visitor’s center offers a close look at canal life. After a scenic climb up Sideling Hill, which was the scene of many stagecoach mishaps due to the steep turns, enjoy the view from Town Hill where you can see into three states at once. Then stop for a relaxing round of golf amid the ridges and valleys of Rocky Gap State Park near Flintstone. Another option is a challenging bike ride through Green Ridge State Forest.

A steam-engine train ride on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad or an exhilarating bike ride on the Allegheny Highlands Trail will take you to Frostburg, where a nationally recognized carriage museum is located. In LaVale, the route passes one of Maryland’s few remaining historic toll houses, outside of which a plaque...
OLD LINE LORE: The National Road's first toll gate house, built during the 1830s in LaVale, had seven sides so that the gatekeeper would have an easier time watching for "toll crashers." The design must have been effective – $9,745.90 in tolls was collected during the gate house's first year of operation, 1836.

Appalachian National Scenic Trail
Appalachian Trail Conservancy
799 Washington Street
P.O. Box 807
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
304-535-6331
www.appalachiantrail.org

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum
2711 Maryland Ave
Elliott City, 21043
410-461-1945
www.ecborail.org

Bennjamin Banneker Historical Park & Museum
300 Della Ave
Oella, 21228
410-887-1087
www.thefriendsofbanneker.org

Casselman River Bridge State Park
349 Headquarters Ln
Grantsville, 21536
301-895-5453
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/casselman.html

The Children's Museum of Rose Hill Manor
1611 N Market St.
Frederick, 21701
301-694-1650
www.rosehillmuseum.com

Fort Frederick State Park
11100 Fort Frederick Rd.
Big Pool, 21711
301-842-2155
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/fortfrederick.html

Francis Scott Key’s Law Office
Roger Brooke Taney & Francis Scott Key Museum
121 S. Bentz St.
Frederick, 21701
301-228-2828, 1-800-999-3613

Green Ridge State Forest
28700 Headquarters Dr NE
Flintstone, 21530
301-478-3124
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/greenridge.html

Gwynns Falls Greenway
Windsor Mill/Franklintown
Baltimore, 21207
410-396-0440
www.gwynnsfalltrail.org

Hagerstown Roundhouse Museum
300 S Burhans Blvd (U.S. 11)
Hagerstown, 21740
301-739-4665
www.roundhouse.org

LaVale Toll Gate House
14302 National Hwy
LaVale, 21502
301-777-5138
www.mdmountainside.com

National Museum of Civil War Medicine
48 E. Patrick St
Frederick, 21701
301-695-1854
www.CivilWrMed.org

Patapsco Valley State Park
8020 Baltimore National Pike
Elliott City, 21043
410-461-5005
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/patapcovalley.html

Rocky Gap State Park
468, Exit 50, 12500 Pleasant Valley Rd
Flintstone, 21530
301-722-1480
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/rockygap.html

still displays the cost for wagons, animals and pioneering pedestrians to pass.

Conestoga wagons once crossed the Casselman River Bridge, a single-span, stone-arch structure built for the National Road near Grantsville in 1813. The town is largely populated by descendants of mid-19th-century Amish and Mennonite farmers. Today, travelers can access the bridge from a former stagecoach stop known as Spruce Forest Artisan Village that serves as a cultural center promoting local arts, crafts and music. US 40 Alternate then winds through the northern section of Savage River State Forest and over Keyser’s Ridge to the Mason and Dixon Line.
Savage River State Forest
127 Headquarters Ln
Grantsville, 21536
301-895-5759
www.dnr.state.md.us

South Mountain State Park
21843 National Pike
Boonsboro, 21713
301-791-4767
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/southmountain.html

Spruce Forest Artisan Village
Rt. 40 next to Penn Alps
Grantsville, 21536
301-895-3332

Thrasher Carriage Museum
19 Depot St
Frostburg, 21532
301-689-3380, 301-777-8678
www.thrashercarriage.com

Washington Monument State Park
South Mountain Recreation Area
21843 National Pike
Boonsboro, 21713
301-732-8065
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/washington.html

Western Maryland Scenic Railroad
& The Old Frostburg Depot
13 Canal St
Cumberland, 21502
301-759-4400
www.wmsr.com

Wilson’s General Store/One Room Schoolhouse
14921 Rufus Wilson Rd.
Clear Spring, 21722
301-582-4718
www.wilsonsgeneralstore.com
Throughout much of this mountainous, Western Maryland byway, the sweetest sound you’ll hear just might be the silence. It’s a stillness that allows you to listen more closely for light breezes tickling autumn leaves, birdsongs echoing along forest trails, and ripples of lake water lapping against gently rocking rowboats.

Take your time meandering through peaceful glades, valleys and marshlands, finally emerging from thick forest areas to find the shore of Maryland’s largest freshwater lake. Be prepared for hiking, biking, skiing, boating and all kinds of other outdoor adventures. But along with four seasons of outdoor pursuits, this byway also offers a little history. You’ll be visiting mid-19th-century coal mining villages, as well as mill towns owning their growth to the C&O Canal and B&O Railroad.

Keyser’s Ridge to Deep Creek Lake State Park – I-68, MD 42, US 219
Start your tour in Keyser’s Ridge and follow I-68 across the Eastern Continental Divide. To the west is Friendsville, home of a family-run winery and the Youghiogheny River Lake, a popular spot for boating, fishing and paddling. The river itself runs for about 135 miles through three states, delivering frequent drops of more than 100 feet per mile. A section between Miller’s Run and Friendsville is Maryland’s first Scenic and Wild River, with white-water rafting guides conveniently located along the way. Learn more at the Youghiogheny Overlook Welcome Center.

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common in northern climates.

Continue your outdoor explorations at Swallow Falls State Park where a popular hiking trail leads to the 51-foot Muddy Creek Falls, largest of four falls within the park. Another trail leads back from the riverbank through a virgin stand of white pine and hemlock.

Then explore a 53-acre lake and more than 21 miles of wooded trails at Herrington Manor State Park. Twenty log cabins within the park are available year-round for renting, or you can make your way to quaint accommodations in the nearby town of Oakland. A nationally recognized Main Street Community, Oakland is noted for its seamless blend of past and present. From the Garrett County Courthouse, which sits on a hill above the city, you can look out over a museum, a community theater, unique boutiques and antiques stores. Oakland’s Historic B&O Train Station, dating to 1884, is not only considered one of the most distinguished historic depots in the country, but also houses shops featuring baked goods, maple syrup and the works of local artisans.

Oakland to Cumberland – MD 135 & 36

Wrap around to MD 135, heading east through Mountain Lake Park and Deer Park to the Potomac State Forest. A sidetrack along MD 560 takes you past picturesque valleys and remote trout streams, and then you can park beside the Lostland Run Trail and hike 3.5 miles down to the 100-foot Cascade Falls.
Developed in 1835 by the Georges Creek Coal and Iron Company, Lonaconing contains dozens of 19th- and early 20th-century buildings, and within a park in the center of town is a historic iron furnace.

Continue north on MD 36 through the mining village of Midland and along the valley floor between Dans Mountain and the Big Savage mountain range. Dans Mountain has a 2,895-foot-high scenic overlook, accessible via MD 55 and affording views of the Georges Creek Valley to the west and the Potomac Valley to the east. In Frostburg, which was once known as the capital of the coal region, travelers can jump to the Historic National Road (page 7) or continue on toward Mount Savage, where in 1844 a rolling mill produced the first solid railroad tracks made in the United States. One last stop on this tour is Cumberland Narrows, a 1,000-foot gorge between Willis and Haystack mountains, which links back into the Historic National Road in Cumberland.

OLD LINE LORE: Nearly 2,000 acres of Garrett State Forest were donated by the Garrett brothers, John and Robert, in 1906, marking the beginning of Maryland’s public lands system. A century later, about 200,000 acres of state forestland exist.

Cranesville Subarctic Swamp
Cranesville Rd & Lake Ford Rd
Oakland, 21550
301-387-4386
www.garrettchamber.com

At this point on the byway, three branches promise many more scenic discoveries for nature enthusiasts:

- Branch north on MD 495 through the ancient bogs and swamp areas of the Allegany Highlands. Hiking and biking trails not only connect with the C&O Canal towpath, but also follow the route of the Western Maryland Railroad for more than 200 miles between Cumberland and the Pennsylvania line.

- A quick detour on MD 38 brings you to the remote town of Kitzmiller. Developed as a milling center, it became key to the mining industry and the transport of coal via the railroad. Nearby is Jennings Randolph Lake, a mountainous recreation area with boating, sailing, scuba diving, ice fishing, and camping.

- Following Savage River Road due north, you come to the 54,000-acre Savage River State Forest. Shaded trails stay cool on even the warmest summer days, and anglers enjoy wading into the nationally acclaimed river to coax brook, rainbow, and brown trout out of deep holes shadowed by large boulders. A 350-acre reservoir provides crystal-clear mountain water for boating and fishing. Below the dam, white-water rapids attract the most experienced paddlers.

Back on MD 135, follow a steep passage and descent from the top of Backbone Mountain, which at 3,360 feet above sea level, is the highest point in the state. Next, you hook into MD 36 and climb toward the town of Lonaconing, which is an Indian name roughly translated as “the meeting place of many waters.”

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Deep Creek Lake State Park
898 State Park Rd
Swanton, 21561
301-387-4111
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/deepcreeklake.html

Deep Creek Lake Discovery Center
898 State Park Rd
Swanton, 21561
301-387-7067
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/discovery.html

Herrington Manor State Park
222 Herrington Ln
Oakland, 21550
301-334-9180
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/herringtonmanor.html

Historic B&O Train Station
117 E. Liberty St
Oakland, 21550

301-334-2691
www.oaklandmd.com

Lonaconing Iron Furnace and Park
Rt 36, Main St
Lonaconing, 21539
301-463-6233
www.mdmountainside.com

Mount Savage Museum Bank, Jail and Mining Building
Main Street
Mount Savage, 21545
301-264-9916
www.mountsavagehistoricalsociety.org

Potomac State Forest
222 Herrington Ln
Oakland, 21550
301-334-2038
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/potomacforest.html

301-334-2038
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/potomacforest.html

Savage River State Forest
127 Headquarters Ln
Grantsville, 21536
301-895-5759
www.dnr.state.md.us

Swallow Falls State Park
222 Herrington Ln
Oakland, 21550
301-334-9180
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/swallowfalls.html

Wisp Mountain Resort
296 Marsh Hill Rd
Deep Creek Lake, 21541
301-387-4911
www.wispresort.com

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
3
Workers who toiled on the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal between 1828 and 1850 could not have imagined that their engineering feat—designed for the sole purpose of speeding up commercial trade—would one day become a hub of outdoor recreational activity. Hiking, biking, bird watching and mule-drawn barge rides are among the many popular pursuits now enjoyed beside this peaceful passage.

During its century of service, the canal worked with a system of 74 lift locks that regulated water levels, allowing boats laden with coal, flour, lumber, grain and produce to be pulled by mule teams walking on an adjacent towpath. Their 184.5-mile journey stretched from the mountains of Western Maryland, through farmland and forest, to the tidewater outskirts of our nation’s capital. Your journey follows this same course, allowing you to make heritage discoveries along each new mile.

Cumberland to Hancock—MD 51 – WV 9 & U.S. 522

Though plans called for the C&O Canal to extend from the Chesapeake Bay all the way into the Ohio Valley, railroading won the race to the west, and work on the canal stalled in Cumberland. This beautiful town—a transportation crossroads tucked amid the Allegheny Mountains—is home to the Cumberland C&O Canal National Historical Park Visitor Center at Canal Place and the Canal Place Heritage Area. The visitor center is housed within the Western Maryland Railway Station, which dates back to 1916. The national park itself includes the C&O Canal Towpath Trail along nearly 20,000 acres paralleling the Potomac River, which is recognized as an American Heritage River for the number of historic sites found along its shores.

From the Spring Gap Recreation Area off MD 51, a one-mile hike along the canal towpath leads to Lock 72, which stands beside a restored, two-story lock tender’s house. Approaching West Virginia, you skirt Green Ridge State Forest, famous among wildlife watchers and off-road bikers alike. In the distance is the most impressive engineering achievement found along the canal—the 236 miles from Cumberland to Washington, D.C.
Paw Paw Tunnel, which, over the course of 14 years, was cut through more than 3,000 feet of rock so that vessels would not have to navigate a tricky double bend in the river. Both the tunnel and a West Virginia town just across the border are named for small, fruit-bearing trees found nearby.

**Hancock to Sharpsburg - MD 144 – I-70 – MD 56, 68, 63 & 65**

Emerging from West Virginia, you cross the border back into Maryland and arrive at the Hancock-based C&O Canal Museum and Visitors Center. Exhibits and a short film bring canal history to life, and the center’s staff can point you toward local country roads that feature wayside markers, views of locks and other canal sites. This area is also famous for its fishing and many fine restaurants.

For several miles from Hancock east toward Big Pool, the C&O Canal byway runs side by side with the Historic National Road byway (see pages 7-18). You’re also near the beginning of the 21-mile-long Western Maryland Rail Trail, a paved path that traverses Fort Frederick State Park, site of an important defensive position occupied in the mid-18th century during the French & Indian War. The fort later saw action...
Washington arranged for the construction of an arsenal which, many years later, became a key Confederate target prior to the Civil War Battle of Antietam.

In Brunswick, railroad yards parallel the canal and river. Visit the Brunswick Railroad Museum/C&O Canal Visitors Center, where exhibits not only tell about the life of railroad workers but also local baseball and the canal. If you’re a hiker or biker, get information from the visitors center about 31 hiker-biker campsites (for single-night tent camping) spaced every few miles along the canal’s towpath trail from Swain’s Lock (Mile 16.6) to Evitts Creek (Mile 180.1).

Point of Rocks to Gaithersburg - US 15 – MD Rts. 28, 109 & 117
You’ve entered a stretch of the canal byway that is a land of nationally recognized landmarks. Point of Rocks achieved national recognition in 1830 when the B&O Railroad and C&O Canal companies fought over the right of way on land between Catoctin Mountain and the Potomac, crucial to their race westward. Then travel through the Monocacy Natural Resource Management Area to admire the Monocacy Aqueduct, that is the largest of the canal’s 11 aqueducts. A sidetrack on MD 95 leads to Sugarloaf Mountain Natural Area, which is a National Natural Landmark. Heavily wooded and covered with brown sandstone, this isolated mountain hosted many lookouts during the Civil War. Now it’s open for hiking, horseback riding and picnicking.

In Poolesville, the John Poole House is an 18th-century log store built by George during the American Revolution and Civil War.

Returning to the canal, the brick Lockhouse 49 takes you back to the 19th century when workers lived here. And soon you’ll be entering the town of Sharpsburg, where Civil War stories mingle with transportation tales.

Sharpsburg to Point of Rocks - MD Rts. 65, 34, 478 & 464
In Sharpsburg, the C&O Canal byway links with the Maryland Civil War Trails: Antietam Campaign (see pages 39-46). After touring the Antietam National Battlefield, site of the bloodiest day in the Civil War, you’ll want to stroll through the surrounding town and admire the late-19th-century country store and canal-related exhibits at the Barron’s C&O Canal Museum.

Following U.S. 340 for a brief sidetrack across the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers brings you to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. This is where George...
town's founder and is a National Historic Landmark. Another museum is located in the restored, one-room Seneca Schoolhouse, built in 1866 from sandstone quarried nearby. The school closed in 1910, but whispers remain of the farmers' children who performed their recitations here every Friday.

From Poolesville, a side track on 107 West brings you to White's Ferry where cars today cross the river on the ferry that was used during the Civil War by the Confederate armies entering Maryland. Stop for a picnic along the canal and river.

Consider exploring a branch off of the byway through the Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve, part of Heritage Montgomery. Considered the country's most successful farm-land preservation program, the agricultural reserve features rolling country side steeped in history. Drive down rustic, rural roads to see landscapes that have changed little since colonial times, including 18th-century plantation homes, horse farms and weathered barns. Following MD 118 also takes you to Germantown, known for its small-town charm and prime antiquing opportunities.

Head back toward the Potomac River and visit Seneca Creek State Park to see a mill and 19th-century cabin.

Seneca to Washington, D.C. - MD Rts. 190 & 189, MacArthur Blvd. Clara Barton Parkway & Canal Road

From several "lock" roads that link to MD 190, you can admire canal structures while also taking advantage of canoe and bike rentals. And just above the canal's 10-mile mark, the Carderock Recreation Area has riverfront picnic facilities while also providing bikers with convenient access to the unpaved C&O Canal Towpath. Ample rock-climbing experiences are also available, with ascents up to 80 feet.

Another stop on both the C&O Canal byway and Maryland Civil War Trails system is the Clara Barton National Historic Site. Known as the "Angel of the Battlefield" for her efforts to comfort sick and injured soldiers, Barton later founded the American Red Cross.

Located three miles west of Carderock, the Great Falls is a spectacular series of waterfalls and rapids that drop 76 feet in two-thirds of a mile, from the Piedmont Plateau to the tidal part of the Potomac River. Rough patches like this made the Potomac unnavigable by ships, prompting the need for a canal. Stop in at the Great Falls Tavern, now the visitor center for the C&O Canal National Historical Park-Potomac. Originally a lockhouse, the tavern is home to a museum of canal history and lore, and features a restored canal boat. You can also arrange for a guided, one-hour, mule-drawn barge ride through one of the historic lift locks.

Before entering Washington, D.C., veer east into Bethesda. Officially recognized by the State of Maryland as one of several Arts & Entertainment Districts in this region, Bethesda is a
hub of cultural activity featuring museums, gardens, galleries, performing arts, and upscale shopping.

Another canal visitors center lies within Georgetown, which was once a busy Maryland tobacco port and now has been incorporated into Washington, D.C. This stylish, urban community’s 18th- and 19th-century homes and commercial buildings now house shops and restaurants. The C&O Canal’s first lock lies at the mouth of Rock Creek, near the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Now you’re ready to be released into our nation’s capital city.

OLD LINE LORE: Both the C&O Canal’s famous Paw Paw Tunnel and a West Virginia town just across the border are named for small, fruit-bearing trees found nearby. The pawpaw is said to be the largest, edible fruit native to America, and the tree’s leaves and twigs contain cancer-fighting properties.

Antietam National Battlefield
 Rt. 65, Sharpsburg Pk, Sharpsburg 21782
 301-432-5124
 Daily, 8:30am-5pm.
 www.nps.gov/anti

Barron’s C&O Canal Museum
 5632 Mose Cir, Sharpsburg 21782
 301-432-8726
 Sat-Sun, 9am-5pm.

Brunswick Railroad Museum/C&O Canal Visitors Center
 40 W Potomac St, Brunswick 21716
 301-834-7100
 Jan-Apr: Fri, 10am-2pm; Sat, 10am-4pm; Sun, 1-4pm. Rest of year: Thur, 10am-2pm.
 www.brrm.org

C&O Canal Museum & Visitors Center
 326 E Main St, Hancock 21750
 301-678-5463
 Fri-Tues, 9am-4:30pm.
 www.nps.gov/choh

C&O Canal National Historical Park-Georgetown
 1057 Thomas Jefferson St NW, Georgetown, Washington, D.C., 20007
 202-653-5190
 www.nps.gov/choh

C&O Canal National Historical Park-Potomac
 11710 MacArthur Blvd, Potomac 20854
 301-299-3613, 301-767-3714
 Barge rides: Apr-Oct.
 www.nps.gov/choh

C&O Canal Paw Paw Tunnel
 MD Rt 51, near Paw Paw, WV, Cumberland 21502
 301-722-8226
 Sunrise-sunset.

Clara Barton National Historic Site
 5801 Oxford Rd, Glen Echo 20812
 301-492-6282
 Call for schedule.
 www.nps.gov/clba

http://www.nps.gov/clba
Cumberland C&O Canal National Historical Park Visitor Center
Western Maryland Railway Station, 13 Canal St, Cumberland 21502
301-722-8226
9am-5pm. Closed Mon, Tue during winter months.
www.nps.gov/choh

Fort Frederick State Park
11100 Fort Frederick Rd
Big Pool, 21711
301-842-2155, (TDD) 301-974-3683
Apr-Oct: 8am-sunset; Nov-Mar: Mon-Fri, 8am-sunset; Sat-Sun and holidays, 10am-sunset.
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/fortfrederick.html

Green Ridge State Forest
28700 Headquarters Dr NE
Flintstone 21530
301-478-3124, (TTY) 410-974-3683
Dawn-dusk
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/greenridge.html

John Poole House
19923 Fisher Ave, Poolesville 20837
301-972-8588
Sun, 12N-5pm.
www.historicmedley.org

Western Maryland Rail Trail
Fort Frederick State Park, 11100 Ft Frederick Rd, Hancock 21711
301-842-2155
Apr 1-Oct 31: 8am-sunset; Nov 1-Mar 31, 10am-sunset.
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/wmrt.html

John Poole House
19923 Fisher Ave, Poolesville 20837
301-972-8588
Sun, 12N-5pm.
www.historicmedley.org

Seneca Creek State Park
11950 Clopper Rd
Gaithersburg 20878
301-924-2127
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/seneca.html

Seneca Schoolhouse Museum
16800 River Rd, Poolesville 20837
301-972-8588, 1-800-925-0880
Mar-Dec: Sun, 1-5pm.
www.historicmedley.org

Antietam Campaign

38
As the autumn of 1862 approached, President Abraham Lincoln felt he needed a decisive Union victory to ensure that there would be support for a yet-to-be-announced proclamation freeing the slaves. It’s still debatable just how decisive the slaughter at Antietam — remembered as “The Bloodiest Single Day of the Civil War” — truly was. By sheer numbers, the Sept. 17 battle ended in a draw, with 10,700 Confederates and 12,400 Union soldiers killed, wounded or missing in action. However, General George McClellan’s Union army thwarted the Rebel advance north, and a few days after the cannons fell silent, Lincoln visited the battlefield.

This byway roughly follows the chronology of events beginning Sept. 4, as General Robert E. Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia crossed the Potomac River into Maryland, and ending two weeks later as Lee’s forces limped back into West Virginia. It follows one of four Maryland Civil War Trails (another, Booth’s Escape, appears as a byway on pages 115-120). Each trail brings you face to face with both familiar and lesser-known Civil War stories, while also placing you among breathtaking scenery while presenting convenient recreational opportunities. This byway is one of two Civil War Trails that intersects Maryland’s Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, recognizing South Mountain and its surrounding valleys as the crossroads of the Civil War in the state. For a free map guide to Maryland Civil War Trails, call 1-888-248-4597 or go online at www.visitmaryland.org.

White’s Ferry to Poolesville – MD 107 & 109

General Lee understood the advantages of a military strike into Federal territory; it would allow time for farmers in war-torn Virginia to complete their fall harvest, and a victory on Union soil might gain foreign support for the Southern cause. Though Lee’s ensuing Campaign of 1862 came to a head in Sharpsburg, his path to that Western Maryland town is strewn with sites of other significant confrontations.

In early September, Confederate soldiers forded the Potomac River near the present-day position of White’s Ferry, which was established in 1828 and still remains hard at work transporting modern-day conveyances and people. Not long after, Union horse-
men probing for enemy infantry clashed with Rebel cavalry beyond the C&O Canal in Poolesville. It would be one of several times Poolesville residents witnessed Civil War action up close: a year earlier, Union troops had assembled here before being ferried into Virginia for the Battle of Ball’s Bluff, and a year later, J.E.B. Stuart’s Confederate cavalry stormed through on its way to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Several historic structures around Poolesville hearken back to the mid-19th century, with Civil War exhibits found inside the circa-1793 John Poole House.

Poolesville to Frederick – MD 109, Comus Rd, Mt. Ephraim Rd, 28, MD 109, 28, 85 Michael’s Mill Rd, Baker Valley Rd, 355

Small communities in Beallsville and Barnesville were disrupted by running cavalry fights, until Confederate riders finally concluded a successful rear-guard action in Comus on Sept. 11. The byway then cuts back across Sugarloaf Mountain, where signalmen from both armies were often stationed, to the town of Dickerson. Here along MD 28, you’ll find the Monocacy River Natural Resource Management Area, which offers hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and a link into the C&O Canal byway (see pages 27-38).

Onward came the Rebel troops, camping in Carrollton Manor and feasting on bread baked in Buckeystown. To the east in Urbana, men of Stuart’s cavalry hosted a Sabers and Roses Ball at the Landon House, which remains a popular “special event” spot. But their merriment was cut short by reports of Union cavalry in the area.

Between US 270 and MD 355 on the road into Frederick, you’ll find the Monocacy National Battlefield. Perhaps better known as the site of the July 9, 1864, conflict dubbed “The Battle that Saved Washington,” Monocacy also played a key role in the Antietam struggle. Ask at the battlefield visitors center for details about Lee’s “lost orders,” which had been mistakenly left behind at an abandoned Confederate camp. The orders were discovered by a Federal private and given to General McClellan, who used the information to his advantage at Antietam.

Frederick to Boonsboro – US 40 & US 40 Alt, MD 17 & 67

Featuring a quaint, 50-block historic, cultural and commercial district, Frederick has been recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as a “Great American Main Street” award winner. Among its many attractions are the National Museum of Civil War Medicine and the Barbara Fritchie House and Museum. Fritchie was a 95-year-old widow when, according to a famous poem by John Greenleaf Whittier, she defiantly waved an American flag from her window as General Stonewall Jackson and his Confederate troops moved through town.

Here, the byway follows a portion of US 40 – the Historic National Road – through Braddock Heights before branching off toward South Mountain State Park. Three days prior to Antietam, battles were fought along three South Mountain “gaps,”

42 43
with some of the wounded, including future President Rutherford B. Hayes, removed to homes and churches in Burkittsville and Middletown, which served as makeshift hospitals. Crampton’s Gap, today encompassed by Gathland State Park, serves as home to the War Correspondents Memorial Arch, erected on the one-time estate of Civil War journalist and nationally renowned author George Alfred Townsend. Travel over the mountain to Boonsboro, which includes a museum displaying local Civil War relics.

Boonsboro to Sharpsburg – MD 34

Heading toward their confrontation in Sharpsburg, both armies passed through Keedysville, which was also where many wounded were treated in Antietam’s aftermath. As dawn broke on Sept. 17, 1862 battle lines were drawn near Antietam Creek – Lee’s 41,000 soldiers with their backs to the Potomac, against a Federal army more than twice that size. By dusk, one of every five fighting men had fallen. The Union dead are buried at the Antietam National Cemetery, with many Confederate soldiers laid to rest in nearby Hagerstown.

A thorough tour of the beautifully preserved Antietam National Battlefield – from the cornfield and Dunker Church to Burnside Bridge and the “Bloody Lane” – requires several hours, especially when combined with a tour of the Pry House Field Hospital Museum. Also plan to stop at the Kennedy Farmhouse, the staging area for abolitionist John Brown and his small army as they planned a pre-Civil War raid of the U.S. Armory and Arsenal at Harpers Ferry. You can reach the Harpers Ferry National Historic Park by heading south from Sharpsburg on Harpers Ferry Road. Brown’s raid, though ultimately unsuccessful, became an anti-slavery rallying cry during the war.

OLD LINE LORE:
The Monocacy Aqueduct, the largest such structure on the C&O Canal, was twice a target of Confederate demolition crews during the Antietam Campaign, but both attempts to destroy it failed. Granite blocks that were used to construct the aqueduct had been quarried from nearby Sugarloaf Mountain.

Barbara Fritchie House and Museum
154 W Patrick St, Frederick 21701
301-698-8992
Apr-Sept: Mon, Thur-Sun, 10am-4pm; Oct-Nov: Sat, 10am-4pm; Sun, 1-4pm.

Boonsborough Museum of History
113 N Main St, Boonsboro 21713
301-432-6969
May-Sept: Sun, 1-5pm; or by appt.

Gathland State Park
MD 67 (c/o Greenbrier State Park, 21843 National Pike, Boonsboro 21713)
301-791-4767
8am-sunset.
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/gathland.html
John Poole House
19923 Fisher Ave, Poolesville 20837
301-972-8588
Sun, 12N-5pm.
www.historicmedley.org

Kennedy Farm House (John Brown HQ)
2406 Chestnut Grove Rd, Sharpsburg 21782
May-Oct: interior tours by appt. only.
www.johnbrown.org

Monocacy National Battlefield
4801 Urbana Pike, Rt 355 S, Frederick 21704
301-662-3515, 301-662-6980
8am-4pm.
www.nps.gov/mono

Monocacy River Natural Resource Management Area
(c/o Seneca Creek State Park, 11950 Clopper Rd, Gaithersburg 20878)
301-924-2127
Dawn-dusk.
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/monocacy.html

National Museum of Civil War Medicine
48 E Patrick St, Frederick 21701
301-695-1864, 800-564-1864
Mon-Sat, 10am-5pm; Sun, 11am-5pm.
www.civilwarmed.org

Pry House Field Hospital Museum
18906 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg 21782
301-695-1864, 800-564-1864
May: weekends, 11am-5:30pm; Memorial Day-Halloween: daily, 11am-5:30pm; Nov 1-Dec 2, weekends, 11am-5:30pm.
www.civilwarmed.org

South Mountain Battlefield State Park
(c/o Greenbrier State Park, 21843 National Pike, Boonsboro 21713)
301-791-4767
Dawn-dusk.
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/southmountain.html

White’s Ferry
24801 White’s Ferry Rd, MD 107, Dickerson 20842
301-349-5200
Daily, 5am-11pm.
buildings. Nearby, you will find the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes, which is situated high on the mountainside, where nature displays itself in all its wild and picturesque glory.

Continue south to see the circa-1856 Roddy Road Covered Bridge, which stretches for 40 feet over one of the area’s finest trout streams. Here, you can branch off from US 15 onto MD 77 and enjoy an Upper Loop tour that traverses both a national park and a state park. The Upper Loop is connected via MD 17 to a Lower Loop that touches the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. See descriptions for both the Upper Loop and Lower Loop below.

Nearby is the 50-acre Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo, where, for nine months out of the year, you can visit with lemurs, monkeys, panthers and more than 400 other animals.

Back on US 15 and entering Frederick, this byway overlaps with two others – the Antietam Campaign (pages 39-46) and Historic National Road (pages 7-18). The town has seemingly played a part in every major chapter of American history for the last 260 years. Guided walking tours and candlelight ghost tours take visitors past breathtaking architecture and several sites linked to celebrated “locals” such as “Star-Spangled Banner” writer Francis Scott Key and

Key's father-in-law, Supreme Court Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney. Dozens of specialty shops, art galleries, antiques stores and restaurants also occupy Downtown Frederick.

This byway concludes at Point of Rocks, which achieved national recognition in 1830 when the B&O Railroad and C&O Canal fought over the right of way between Catoctin Mountain and the Potomac River. The railroad finally tunneled through the mountain in 1867, but you can pick up the C&O Canal scenic byway (pages 27-38) here at its midpoint point.

**Upper Loop from Thurmont – MD 77, 491 & 550**

Head west on MD 77 to cross Catoctin Mountain and ascend beside cool, clear Big Hunting Creek and its tributary, Cunningham Falls. The creek is a favorite among anglers seeking trout. Catoctin Mountain Park, which lies to the north of the highway, is federal property acquired in 1936 as an experiment in developing forest on marginal land. The Camp David presidential retreat located here is closed to the public, but several nearby paths trace the history of the industrial use of the mountain. Near the park’s visitor center, a short interpretive trail takes you to the Blue Blazes Still, where moonshine makers turned out 25,000 gallons of corn whiskey before the still was raided and shut down in 1929. At the other end of the park is a sawmill replica built on the site of a real sawmill that operated into the late 1890s. Other trails explore the wood-cutting industry and the life of colliers who practiced charcoal making.

On the south side of MD 77 is Cunningham Falls State Park, the centerpiece of which is a 78-foot waterfall that cascades into a rocky gorge. Hike from a picnic area off Catoctin Hollow Road, and also enjoy a swim in the 43-acre Hunting Creek Lake. At the southern end of the park is the Catoctin Furnace, which was in operation from 1776 until 1905, and once was manned by African craftsmen. Trails lead to a furnace stack and the iron master’s manor house.

Pass through the town of Smithsburg, which, when founded in 1806 at the base of South Mountain, served as a banking and trading center for the area’s fruit growers. Follow MD 491 beyond Cascade and into Pen Mar. The Western Maryland Railway developed this area as a mountain resort and amusement park. Next, take MD 550 through Blue Ridge Mountain forest and farmland toward Sabillasville. The highway here was originally called Old Gap Road and connected the Catoctin Furnace with forges in Pennsylvania.

**Lower Loop from Smithsburg – MD 17, Highland School Rd, Gambrill Park Rd, US 40, MD 17**

Travel over South Mountain into Wolfsville, and then continue south on MD 17, skirting the pastoral valley carved by Middle Creek. Bear left on Highland School Road, which crosses the summit of Catoctin Mountain, and then turn right to enter Gambrill State Park. Pause on the 1,600-foot summit of High Knob to view Middletown and the Monocacy Valley stretched out below, and also enjoy hiking and mountain biking throughout the area.
Don’t put away your hiking boots just yet, because you’ll soon be coming up on one of the premier hiking opportunities in the United States. The Appalachian National Scenic Trail stretches more than 2,000 miles from Maine to Georgia, and Maryland’s 40-mile portion passes near Greenbrier State Park. Follow US 40 to Greenbrier, which also features a 42-acre freshwater lake, as well as “mountain stones” that provide a glimpse into the earth’s geologic history. From Greenbrier, take Route 17 to complete the lower loop and join MD 77.

OLD LINE LORE: Camp Hi Catoctin, in what was then known as the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area, was adapted by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as his personal mountain retreat during World War II and named “Shangri-La.” Dwight Eisenhower renamed the presidential retreat Camp David after his grandson.

Blue Blazes Whiskey Still
Catoctin Mountain Park
6602 Foxville Rd
Thurmont, 21788
301-663-9388
www.nps.gov/cato

Catoctin Furnace
Cunningham Falls State Park
Catoctin Furnace Rd, Rt 806
Thurmont, 21788
301-271-7574
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html

Catoctin Mountain Park
MD Rt 77, 6602 Foxville Rd
Thurmont, 21788
301-668-9388
www.nps.gov/cato

Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo
13019 Catoctin Furnace Rd
Thurmont, 21788
301-271-3180
www.cupzoo.com

Cunningham Falls State Park
14039 Catoctin Hollow Rd
Thurmont, 21788
301-271-7574
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html

Gambrill State Park
US Rt 40, 3 miles west of Frederick, Gambrill Park Rd
Frederick, 21702
301-271-7574
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/gambrill.html

Greenbrier State Park
21843 National Pike
Boonsboro, 21713
301-791-4767
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/gambrill.html

National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
333 S Seton Ave
Emmitsburg, 21727
301-447-6606
www.setonshrine.org
Roddy Road Covered Bridge
North of Thurmont, off US 15
Thurmont, 21788
301-228-2888, 1-800-999-3613
www.visitfrederick.org

Roger Brooke Taney & Francis Scott Key Museum
121 S Bentz St
Frederick, 21701
301-228-2828, 1-800-999-3613
Thurmont, settled around 1751 by a family moving west from Pennsylvania. A small tool manufacturing plant popped up, and then the Western Maryland Railroad arrived in 1872. The surrounding land not only features picnicking, play areas and exceptional trout fishing in Catoctin Mountain and Cunningham Falls State Park, but also boasts three covered bridges built in the mid 1800s – Loy’s Station, Roddy Road and Utica Mills.

Heading east on MD 77, the old railroad town of Detour was developed around a sawmill and woolen mill, both of which operated until 1849. Farther east, Uniontown is a 19th-century rural village with numerous country-style homes. The Uniontown Academy, now serving as a museum,
is a former one-room schoolhouse, while down the road in Westminster is McDaniel College, a liberal arts and sciences institution established in 1867. Originally known as Western Maryland College, it was the first coeducational college south of the Mason and Dixon Line. Summertime is especially busy on campus, as spectators watch the Baltimore Ravens football team conduct practice before the NFL season gets under way.

Main Street in Westminster is home to the Carroll County Arts Council, as well as three 19th-century buildings under the auspices of the Historical Society of Carroll County. Inside you’ll find an exhibition gallery, a research library and displays of historic toys and dolls. Turning south onto Center Street affords a glimpse into the area’s agricultural heritage at the 140-acre Carroll County Farm Museum. In addition to farm displays and artisan demonstrations, the museum hosts special events such as the annual Maryland Wine Festival. Sidetracking north along MD 97, you come to the Union Mills Homestead and Grist Mill, a Maryland Civil War Trails site that explores the divided loyalties of the family that operated the mill.

The road back to Emmitsburg on MD 140 rolls through Taneytown, an agricultural trading center established in 1762 by a relative of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Roger Brooke Taney. Settle here for the night in a historic country inn or cozy bed and breakfast.

Lower Loop from Uniontown – MD 84, 75 & 31
The Lower Loop of the Old Main Streets byway meets with the Upper Loop in Uniontown, then strikes south toward Linwood on MD 84. A number of Victorian-era homes have smokehouses, windmills and icehouses. Following MD 75 to the west is Union Bridge, where the Main Street-based Western Maryland Railway Historical Society Museum is filled with artifacts and memorabilia to accompany an N-scale model railroad.

South on MD 75 beyond Johnsville is Libertyown, which was an old turnpike stop as farmers carried grain to the Baltimore port. Next, you loop northeast on MD 31 toward New Windsor, which was called Sulphur Springs when settled in the early 19th century. The historic New Windsor Conference Center offers a tranquil retreat for numerous non-profit groups, churches and families during the year. From there rejoin MD 84 to complete the tour.

Mount Airy Branch – MD 26, 808 & 27, 26, Woodville Rd, Shirley Bohn Rd, Buffalo Rd, MD 808, which is Main Street
Below the Lower Loop, this byway branches off from Libertytown to Unionville and then straddles the border between Frederick and Carroll counties as it heads along Woodville, Shirley Bohn and Buffalo roads. Look across the countryside for a trio of vineyards – Berrywine Plantations/Linganore Winecellars, Elk Run Vineyards and Loew Vineyards. Take a tour of each operation, sample...
the wine and settle down for a quiet picnic.

MD 808 is Main Street for Mount Airy. Parks around town offer opportunities for fishing, hiking and other recreation before you pick up MD 27 and link into the Historic National Road byway (page 7).

OLD LINE LORE: The Utica Mills Covered Bridge spanned the nearby Monocacy River until being washed away during a severe storm in 1889. The remains of the 101-foot-long bridge were gathered and reassembled at its present location above Fishing Creek.

Berrywine Plantations/Linganore Wine cellars
13601 Glissians Mill Rd
Mount Airy, 21771
410-831-5889

Catoctin Mountain Park
6602 Foxville Rd
Thurmont, 21787
301-663-9330, 301-663-9388
www.nps.gov/cato

Cunningham Falls State Park
14039 Catoctin Furnace Rd
Thurmont, 21771
601-271-7574
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html

Elk Run Vineyards
15113 Liberty Rd
Mount Airy, 21771
410-775-2513, 1-800-414-2513
www.elkrun.com

Historical Society of Carroll County
210 East Main St
Westminster, 21157
410-848-6494
www.hscc.carr.org/property/properties.htm

Loew Vineyards
14001 Liberty Rd, Rt 26
Mount Airy, 21771
301-831-5464
www.loewvineyards.net

McDaniel College
2 College Hill
Westminster, 21157
410-848-7000
www.mcdbarn.edu

National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes
Mount St. Mary’s College
US Rt 15 South, 19 E Church St
Emmitsburg, 21727
301-447-5318
www.msmary.edu/grotto

National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
333 Seton Ave
Emmitsburg, 21727
301-447-6606
www.setonshrine.org
New Windsor Conference Center
P.O. Box 188, 500 Main St
New Windsor, 21776
1- 800-766-1553, 410-635-8700
www.brethren.org/genbd/hwcc/

Western Maryland Railway Historical Society Museum
41 North Main St
Union Bridge, 21791
410-775-0150, 410-356-9199
www.moosevalley.org/wmrhs

Mason and Dixon
Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon spent nearly four years in the 1760s helping to settle a land dispute by surveying newly established boundaries between Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Delaware. In decades to come, the line they defined would become a symbol throughout the United States for the cultural divide between North and South.

This easy-going byway, running west to east along the northern edge of Maryland near its border with Pennsylvania, takes a relaxing drive in the country and incorporates both historical encounters and recreational endeavors. You’re also welcome to experience life “down on the farm,” enjoying the many fruits of Maryland’s agricultural entrepreneurs.

Begin at the Mason and Dixon Discovery Center on US 15 to assist with all of your travel plans. Follow part of the Old Main Streets byway (page 55) toward Westminster, where the Carroll County Farm Museum has been providing hands-on opportunities to experience mid-19th-century rural life for more than 40 years. Several structures dot the farm’s 140 acres, including a croquet lawn, fish pond and heirloom garden.

North on MD 97, the Union Mills Homestead and Grist Mill is a short sidetrack away. On the road to Gettysburg, Union Mills holds Civil War significance for hosting both Union and Confederate soldiers. At the homestead, which is an important site on the Maryland Civil War Trail, one brother sided with the Southern cause while the other remained loyal to the North.

This byway continues through Melrose on its way to Manchester, a historic community featuring the family-owned Cygnus Wine Cellars. Cygnus, one of more than 20 vineyards throughout the state, is open for wine tastings, retail sales and many special events. Picking up MD 25, you drive on a portion of the Falls Road byway (page 71) until veering east toward Prettyboy Reservoir. The reservoir’s hiking trails, picnic areas and scenic overlooks can be reached from Beckleysville Road to Kids Schoolhouse Road, and downstream

64

65

143 miles from Emmitsburg to Appleton
Deer Creek Loop – MD 24, Grier Nursery Rd, Cherry Hill Rd

On your way east, check out the Deer Creek Loop, which runs south on MD 24 and loops around with a series of left-hand turns. The loop begins along the hills and valleys of the Eden Mill Nature Center and Park, on the edge of Deer Creek, a Scenic and Wild River. A restored mill is the centerpiece of the property, serving as the launching point for canoe trips, hikes and nature programs. Next comes the 855-acre Rocks State Park, located where Deer Creek has cut a gorge 250 feet deep. A popular, 190-foot rock-climbing cliff, known as the King and Queen Seat, was once a ceremonial gathering place for the Susquehannock Nation of Native Americans. Tubing and fishing take place in the creek below.

Before returning to MD 24 and completing the loop, travel through Forest Hill. Farms in this rural area are known for their hayrides, corn mazes, and fresh fruits and vegetables.

Harkins to Appleton – MD 136, US 1, MD 273

Bring a picnic basket and relax with a bottle of wine at Pylesville-based Fiore Winery, the winner of numerous international honors. Then, depending on the season, your journey to a farm in the nearby town of Whiteford can yield pumpkins, pony rides, tasty produce or cut-your-own Christmas trees.

From Prospect, through Dublin, you brush against the Lower Susquehanna Byway (page 83) and come to the edge of the

from the Prettyboy Dam is a catch-and-release fishing area that has been rated among the best in the mid-Atlantic region for brown trout.

Around White Hall, amid rolling farmland and fenced horse fields, the byway overlaps with a portion of the Northern Central Rail Trail. This abandoned railroad bed is now a packed stone path running for 20 miles from Hunt Valley to the Mason and Dixon Line, with bike rentals available through local vendors. Nearby is the Greystone Golf Course, a public, 18-hole venue noted for its natural scenery. After a brush with the Horses & Hounds byway (page 77), you head north through Drybranch to Norrisville, and then parallel the Pennsylvania Line heading toward Harkins.
At 17-feet tall, Kilgore is the second highest free-falling waterfall in Maryland.

Applewood Farm
4435 Prospect Rd
Whiteford, 21160
410-836-1140
www.applewoodfarm.org

Carroll County Farm Museum
500 S Center St
Westminster, 21157
410-383-3880, 1-800-654-4645
www.carrollcountyfarmmuseum.org

Cecil County Dragway
1916 Theodore Rd
Rising Sun, 21911
410-287-6280
www.cecilcountydragway.com

Cygnus Wine Cellars
3130 Long Lane
Manchester, 21102
410-768-3518, 410-766-4239

Eden Mill Park and Nature Center
1617 Eden Mill Rd, Pylesville 21132
410-638-3616
www.edenmill.org

Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area
300 Tawes Dr
Elkton, 21921
410-398-1246
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/fairhill.html

Fiore Winery
3026 Whiteford Rd
Pylesville, 21132
410-879-4007
www.fiorewinery.com

Susquehanna River as it flows into the Chesapeake Bay. Spanning the waterway in Conowingo is one of the nation’s largest hydroelectric generating stations, and below the dam you are treated to some of the best smallmouth bass fishing in the country along the lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway. Birder’s World magazine also recommends this area for its winter birding opportunities.

Across the Conowingo Dam, Rising Sun offers a variety of recreational outlets, ranging from the peaceful setting of the Plumpton Park Zoo to the high-octane action found at Cecil County Dragway, a quarter-mile-long strip sanctioned by the National Hot Rod Association.

Into the northeastern-most corner of the state, where Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon surveyed a hard angle at the borders of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Delaware, you arrive at the Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area, where one of the few Mason and Dixon markers remain. Formerly owned by a member of the duPont family who was an avid equestrian, this 5,613-acre facility was purchased by the state more than 30 years ago. In addition to having a turf course that hosts steeplechases, timber runs and flat races, Fair Hill attractions include trout fishing at Big Elk Creek, admiring the Foxcatcher Farm Covered Bridge, and hiking on an 80-mile trail system.

OLD LINE LORE: Kilgore Falls, found in the Falling Branch area of Rocks State Park, was featured in the Disney film Tuck Everlasting (2002).
Northern Central Rail Trail
Gunpowder Falls State Park
Monkton
410-592-2897

Plumpton Park Zoo
1416 Telegraph Rd
Rising Sun, 21911
410-658-6850
www.plumptonparkzoo.org

Rocks State Park
3318 Rocks Chrome Hill Rd
Jarrettsville, 21084
410-557-7994
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/cen-tral/rocks.html

Union Mills Homestead and
Grist Mill
3311 Littlestown Pike, MD 97
Westminster, 21158
410-848-2288
http://tourism.carr.org/unionmil.htm
For much of its length, Falls Road, or MD 25, follows the Jones Falls Valley from the rolling countryside of Baltimore County to bustling Baltimore City. The Jones Falls was an important source of power for grist and cotton mills in Baltimore's early days. A string of mills along the valley produced goods that were taken into town via the Falls Road Turnpike, and later the North Central Railroad. Today, Falls Road remains mostly rural, providing easy access to historical and cultural attractions as country landscapes give way to a glittering cityscape.

Prettyboy Reservoir to Greenspring Valley – MD 25

Briefly overlapping with the Mason and Dixon byway (page 63), your Falls Road tour begins in the village of Alesia near the Prettyboy Reservoir. Hiking, fishing and paddle sports are a few of the popular pursuits in this area at the reservoir and at Gunpowder Falls State Park. Next, your route winds through rolling countryside into deep, stream-cut valleys, leading you past an intersection with the Horses & Hounds byway (page 77) and through the town of Butler. Stop and browse among the various antiques stores and specialty shops before moving on to the Oregon Ridge Nature Center and Park. Marble quarries, iron ore pits and an archaeology site are just one aspect of the 1,100-acre park, which also hosts outdoor events ranging from orchestral concerts to hot-air balloon ascensions.

Heading south past the beautiful campuses of Maryvale Preparatory School and St. Paul's School, you find yourself amid an impressive array of historic country estates scattered throughout the Green Spring Valley. Get a closer look with a quick side-track on MD 130 (Green Spring Valley Road), and then return to Falls Road as it approaches Brooklandville.

Ruxton to Baltimore – MD 25

Passing through an intersection with Joppa Road and the six-lane Jones Falls Expressway (I-83), you approach what looks like a medieval castle. The Cloisters, a mansion built in 1932 with a design based on late medieval French and English architecture, is used for weddings and other special events. You are now inside the Baltimore Beltway (I-695), but still able to see many stately homes amid natural settings. A left turn on Ruxton Road leads to the village of Ruxton, which was settled in 1699. One of the oldest African-American congregations in Maryland meets at tiny St. John's Church. Directly across Falls Road from Ruxton is Rockland, a National Register Historic District, which takes its name from an 18th-century estate once owned by Maryland's first governor, Thomas Johnson. Rockland grew up around the milling industry and has become a quiet community of impressive stone buildings.

Before crossing the Baltimore City line, Falls Road runs through Bare Hills, a community that took its name from the chromate, copper and serpentine rock mines that were active in the area during the 1800s. The Bare Hills of today is a residential neighborhood featuring Gothic revival
Along 36th Street, the traditional commercial artery within the village of Hampden, restaurants, shops and galleries often cater to students and faculty coming from nearby Johns Hopkins University. Other neighborhoods in the area include Woodberry and Brick Hill, both of which started out as housing for textile workers in nearby Meadow Mill. Today, the mill itself houses an athletic club, a small eclectic theater, and non-profit groups with an artistic bent, such as the Potters Guild of Baltimore and the local Gem Cutters Guild. Near the end of this byway is the Baltimore Streetcar Museum, which chronicles 100 years of Baltimore Street railway history. You can also jump to other byways within the city, including the National Historic Seaport (page 97) and Charles Street (page 89).

OLD LINE Lore: The Roland Park Shopping Center, built in 1896, is one of America's earliest shopping centers and was the first to provide off-street parking. Stop by the bakery, the market, or one of the other shops.

Baltimore Clayworks
5707 Smith Avenue
Baltimore 410-578-1919
www.baltimoreclayworks.org

Baltimore Streetcar Museum
1901 Falls Rd, Baltimore 21211
410-547-0264
www.baltimorestreetcar.org

Café Hon
1002 W. 36th Street
Baltimore 21211
410-243-1230
www.cafehon.exsitemaster.com

Clipper Mill
2010 Clipper Park Rd.
Baltimore, 21211
www.clippermill.net

The Cloisters
10440 Falls Road
Lutherville, 21094
410-821-7448
www.cloisterscastle.com/contact.aspx

Gunpowder Falls State Park
2813 Jerusalem Road, P.O. Box 483
Kingsville, 21087
(410) 592-2897
www.dhr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/gunpowder.html

homes. Nearby you'll find Robert E. Lee Park and Lake Roland, a popular summer destination for generations of Baltimorans. The park is not only dog-friendly, but features several miles of off-road running trails.

Baltimore – MD 25 to Maryland Avenue
On the northwest outskirts of the city is what some sources consider to be one of Baltimore's first suburb, Mount Washington. This eclectic village has tree-lined streets leading to boutiques, galleries, taverns and outdoor cafes. Upscale shopping and outdoor dining are also in vogue at the Village of Cross Keys, which you pass en route to Roland Park. Local authors, political figures and other notables have known to make their home here in this shaded retreat.
The sounds of hunting horns and baying hounds seem to echo among the valleys and vistas of this route, as if you’ve driven into the wide-open English countryside. Though located in an area traditionally known as hunt country – fox hunting and steeplechase races are still popular here – the farms you see along the way are also famous for producing Thoroughbreds that have raced on major tracks across America.

**Shawan to Hereford – Tufton Ave, Worthington Ave, MD 128, Dover Rd, Trenton Rd, MD 88, Grace Rd, MD 137 & MD 45**

Start your tour by leaving I-83 at Exit 20 West, which takes you toward Shawan. First, plan to stop at the Oregon Ridge Nature Center and Park, with its forest hiking trails, wildlife management pond, archaeology site and excellent birding areas. Shawan Downs, a premier equestrian facility located on 300 acres of former farmland, attracts thousands of spectators each autumn for a series of steeplechase races known as the Legacy Chase.

Along Tufton Avenue, country stores and farm markets offer an abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables during the growing season. Continue west through Worthington Valley, an 18th-century farming area that is much as it was when the ancestors of many current residents first settled here. Just up the road, a world-famous steeplechase race, the time-honored Maryland Hunt Cup, has been held each spring since 1894. Fans enjoy an afternoon of tailgating and picnicking on a hill overlooking the four-mile, 22-fence racecourse.

The humble, 19th-century town of Glyndon, found near Reisterstown, grew up as a popular summer community accessible via the Western Maryland Railroad. Up MD 128 is St. John’s Episcopal Church, built in 1869 and serving as the site of a “Blessing of the Hounds” ceremony held each Thanksgiving Day. A drive along Belmond Road takes you through a broad valley and past Sagamore Farm, once among the country’s leading Thoroughbred farms.

On a three-mile timber course in Butler, the century-old Grand National Steeplechase is another springtime tradition. From there, the route passes through the small town of White House, beyond rolling countryside, to Hereford, a 19th-century village that grew up around the York Pike. Gunpowder Falls State Park’s Hereford Wildlands features steep-sided valleys, rocky trails and an upland forest habitat for many species of birds. See local outfitters.
about canoes, bikes, inner tubes, or complete guide services.

Hereford to Jacksonville – MD 138, Troyer Rd, Harford Creamery Road, Madonna Rd & MD 146

Enter Monkton by way of MD 138. Surrounded by horse farms and well-preserved estates, this historic mill community along the Gunpowder Falls was once served by the North Central Railroad. Today, a hiking and biking trail follows the abandoned railroad bed up to the Pennsylvania line, linking into the Mason and Dixon byway (page 63). Heading south on MD 146, visit the Ladew Topiary Gardens, featuring 22 acres of fancifully shaped shrubbery and 15 themed flower gardens surrounding a historic manor house. Further south, one of the oldest and most grueling steeplechase courses in the country is found at My Lady’s Manor, which was property given by the third Lord Baltimore to his fourth wife in 1713.

Begin to loop back to your starting point by turning right on Manor Road, or follow MD 146 south to Jacksonville, which is a commercial center for the surrounding rural area.

Jacksonville to Cromwell Valley – MD 146, Dulaney Valley Rd, Manor Rd, Hydes Rd, Long Green Pike, Glen Arm Rd & Cromwell Bridge Rd

You’re still in “Horse Country” as you head south on MD 146 from Jacksonville, but a variety of recreational opportunities present themselves at each turn. Take a picnic basket along with you to Maryland’s first winery, Hydes-based Boordy Vineyards. Established in 1945, Boordy operates amid a cluster of 19th-century farm buildings, offering tours, wine tastings and special events throughout the year. Just up Long Green Pike is St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. The structure you see today was built in 1855 after the original church, established in 1822, burned down. Next, explore the scenic roadways of the Loch Raven Reservoir and Cromwell Valley, stopping to enjoy hiking, biking or fishing.

Sidetrack east along a portion of Gunpowder Falls State Park toward Kingsville and the historic Jerusalem Mill. A gristmill village remained busy in the area for nearly two centuries, beginning in 1772. Today you might be able to catch a living-history demonstration while touring the mill, blacksmith shop and gun factory.

Your journey concludes in Towson, where the Hampton National Historic Site takes visitors back to 18th-century high life. When the mansion was completed in 1790, it represented the height of post-Revolutionary War opulence, with gardens, an icehouse and stables. Original slave quarters are also on site.

OLD LINE Lore: Native Dancer, one of the top-ranked U.S. Thoroughbred champions of all time, is buried in a nondescript equine cemetery at Sagamore Farm in the Glyndon area. Nicknamed “The Gray Ghost,” Native Dancer was the first horse made famous through television and was also featured on the cover of the May 31, 1954 Time magazine.
Boordy Vineyards
12820 Long Green Pike
Hydes, 21082
410-592-5015
www.boordy.com

Cromwell Valley Park
Sherwood Farm and Park office
2002 Cromwell Bridge Rd
Baltimore, 21234
410-887-2503
www.bcpl.net/~cvpark/

Gunpowder Falls State Park
2813 Jerusalem Rd
Kingsville, 21087
410-592-2897
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/gunpowder/html

Hampton National Historic Site
535 Hampton Lane
Towson, 21286
410-823-1309
www.nps.gov/hamp

Ladew Topiary Gardens
3535 Jarretsville Pike
 Monkton, 21111
410-557-9466
www.ladewgardens.com

Loch Raven Reservoir
1201 Dulany Valley Rd
Towson, 21402
410-887-5683

Oregon Ridge Nature Center and Park
13555 Beaver Dam Rd
 Cockeysville, 21030
410-887-1815
www.oregonridge.org

Shawan Downs
P.O. Box 433
Lutherville-Timonium, 21094
410-666-3676
www.shawandowns.org/main/contact/contact.htm

Ladew Topiary Gardens
3535 Jarretsville Pike
Monkton, 21111
410-557-9466
www.ladewgardens.com

Northern Central Rail Trail
Gunpowder Falls State Park
410-592-2897
To learn about the area’s seafaring heritage, visit the Havre de Grace Maritime Museum and then walk out to a waterfront promenade that leads past the fully restored, 180-year-old Concord Point Lighthouse, one of the last beacons still in operation on the East Coast. Other attractions either in Havre de Grace or on the outskirts of town explore local agricultural traditions (Steppingstone Museum), the art of waterfowl decoy carving (Havre de Grace Decoy Museum), and life in a lock house on the former Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal (Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace).

One mile wide in some points, the Susquehanna River is the largest, non-navigable river in the United States, every minute pouring 19 million gallons of fresh water into the Chesapeake Bay. It’s a river with history, too, as European settlers established a prosperous fur trade here with the Susquehannock Indians, which was the most powerful tribe of the upper Chesapeake Bay at the time.

This byway begins west of the river where it meets the bay, runs north so that you can cross the Conowingo Dam, and then loops around to the mighty Susquehanna’s eastern shore. As you follow historic transportation routes, hike along shaded trails or cast a line for American and hickory shad, your trip through the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Area promises opportunities to learn about Native American and colonial life, as well as America’s fight for independence, maritime traditions and industrial achievements.

Havre de Grace to Conowingo Dam – MD 155, 161, Rock Run Rd, Stafford Rd, Shuresville Rd, US 1

The river port of Havre de Grace (“Harbor of Grace”) was well known to colonial travelers for its quality inns and taverns. Even after most of the town’s buildings were either damaged or destroyed by the British during the War of 1812, Havre de Grace bounced back as an important center for shipping and commerce. Today the town offers waterfront restaurants and antiques shops.

To 33 miles from Havre de Grace to Perryville
Follow Ararat Farm Road, and Frenchtown Road into Perryville to visit the local railway museum. Down the street is the early-18th-century Rodgers Tavern, which, due to its delicious fare and proximity to a ferry boat landing, was a favorite stopping place for George Washington, Lafayette and other Revolutionary figures. In addition to the history, Perryville has a 30-store, brand-name outlet center and 18-hole, bayside golf course. Finally, walk to Perry Point and look out across the Susquehanna River for a grand view of Havre de Grace.

OLD LINE LORE: The Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail, along a major hawk migration route in the autumn, passes near a blue heron rookery as it extends from the Conowingo Dam to Deer Creek. Birder’s World magazine has recommended the area around the dam as a top-notch winter birding site.

Concord Point Lighthouse
Lafayette & Concord Sts
Havre de Grace, 21078
410-939-9040
www.decoymuseum.com

Conowingo Dam & Hydroelectric Plant
PO Box 327
Conowingo, 21918
(410) 457-5011
http://esm.versar.com/pprp/power-plants-new/conowingo.htm

Havre de Grace Decoy Museum
215 Giles St
Havre de Grace, 21078
410-939-9739
www.decoymuseum.com

Conowingo Dam to Perryville – US 1, MD 222, Ararat Farm Rd, Frenchtown Rd, MD 7
Stop at the Conowingo Dam Overlook for a spectacular view of this 80-year-old engineering marvel, and then enjoy a scenic hiking or biking trip along the mostly flat, 2.2-mile Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail. After following US 1 over the dam, you can continue north to link into the Mason and Dixon Byway (page 63) or turn south on MD 222 toward Port Deposit, which flourished in the first half of the 19th century as a transit point for river freight. Built on a narrow bank between the river and granite cliffs, this one-square town prospered from its mills and quarries. Look for the Georgian-style Gerry House, which, in addition to being one of the oldest of the town’s many 19th-century residences, is also known for entertaining Revolutionary War hero, Major General Lafayette, as a guest in 1824. On a nearby bluff farther south along Main Street is an imposing brick-and-stone stairway that climbs for 75 steps to provide a view of both the Susquehanna River and four bridges.

Conowingo Dam to Deer Creek – US 1, MD 222, Ararat Farm Rd, Frenchtown Rd, MD 7
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A sidetrack into the village of Darlington reveals dignified homes in a classic, small-town setting, complete with tranquil tree-shaded streets.

Conowingo Dam to Perryville – US 1, MD 222, Ararat Farm Rd, Frenchtown Rd, MD 7
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Havre de Grace Maritime Museum
100 Lafayette St
Havre de Grace, 21078
410-939-4800
www.hdgmartinemuseum.org

Perryville Railway Museum
Broad St. & Harford Ave.
650 Broad Street 21903
(410) 642-6429
www.perryvillemd.org/railroad.htm

Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Trail
http://brokenclaw.com/biking/susquehanna.html

Rodgers Tavern
259 Broad St, Perryville 21903
410-642-6066

Steppingstone Museum
461 Quaker Bottom Rd
Havre de Grace
410-939-2299
www.steppingstonemuseum.org

Susquehanna Museum of Havre de Grace
Lock House, 817 Conesteo St
Havre de Grace, 21078
410-939-5780
www.lockhousemuseum.org

Susquehanna State Park
Off Rt 155
Havre de Grace, 21084
410-557-7994
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/cen
trail/susquehanna.html
Baltimore entertains millions of leisure and business travelers each year. Many of them come for the steamed crabs and sailing, but more have discovered the world-renowned museums, captivating performing arts, high-intensity professional sports, and fine ethnic dining. Charles Street, Baltimore’s grandest and best-known artery, takes you on a 10-mile journey through some of the city’s most fashionable cultural, residential and commercial areas. Come experience authentic Baltimore and stop to shop, dine, sightsee, and seek out world-class entertainment. At the same time, take note of several institutions whose influence extends beyond Baltimore’s borders to the nation and the globe.

Lutherville to Roland Park
To the north, Charles Street appears as a wooded parkway that begins just above the Baltimore Beltway (I-695) and heads south into the heart of the Baltimore City Heritage Area with its eclectic neighborhoods, chic restaurants and stately buildings. A side-track along Bellona Avenue leads into the residential community of Lutherville, where dozens of historic structures mingle with more modern homes. Or you can journey into Towson, with its popular shopping areas, movie theaters and eateries. Back on Charles Street, this byway heads south past the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen, a massive stone church built in 1959 as a result of a bequest made by Thomas O’Neill. O’Neill was an Irish born, multimillionaire merchant, whose store miraculously escaped complete destruction in the devastating Baltimore fire of 1904. Further south is Friends School, which was founded in 1784, making it the oldest school in Baltimore. Next you’ll see two notable institutions of higher learning with long traditions of excellence. There’s the College of Notre Dame, which in 1895 became the nation’s first Catholic College for women, and then Loyola College, founded by Jesuits in 1852. A slight detour at Greenway and Highfield Road leads to the six-acre Sherwood Gardens, where late-April rains bring thousands of tulips to bloom.

Proceeding through Guilford, you’re able to make a grand approach via University Parkway to the garden suburb of Roland Park. This late 19th-century residential community has narrow, winding streets lined with elegant villas and mansions. Coming up is the Homewood campus of internationally acclaimed Johns Hopkins University, which features more than 20 Georgian-style buildings on its 100-acre campus. Visit the 200-year-old Homewood House Museum to see fine furnishings and decorations from the 18th and 19th centuries, and then learn more about America’s first sport at the Lacrosse Museum and National Hall of Fame.

Charles Village to Mount Vernon Place
Charles Village was developed in the late 19th century as one of Baltimore’s first suburban neighborhoods. Take time to admire Lovely Lane Methodist Church, a Stanford White-designed building that contains...
John Carroll blessed the laying of the cornerstone of the Basilica, which is considered one of the finest examples of neo-classical architecture in the world.

As you approach Baltimore’s famous waterfront area, other cultural attractions take center stage. 1st Mariner Arena, hosts concerts, sports events and other entertainment. You can also slip around the corner at Eutaw Street to take in Broadway productions at the Hippodrome Theatre at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center. Cornerstone of Baltimore’s recent westside renaissance, the Hippodrome presents rich and diverse events amid early 20th-century grandeur.

Back on Charles Street, Belvedere Row is an entire block of Queen Anne-style rowhouses. This is followed by Mount Vernon Place, the centerpiece of which is a 208-foot-tall monument topped by a 16-foot statue of George Washington. Other monuments peek at you from nearby parks as you approach two more internationally recognized destinations. To one side is the Walters Art Museum, which is also free and presents 5,000 years of artistic achievement. Across from the Walters, music and dance performances take place at the Hopkins-affiliated Peabody Institute. While in this area, take time to shop at distinctive boutiques and dine at one of the numerous ethnic restaurants, all of which express the fashion and influence of “Charm City”.

Charles Street is famous for its Cathedral Hill Historic District. This concentration of more than 100 cultural, educational, commercial and religious buildings includes the Baltimore Basilica. In 1806, Bishop
Inner Harbor Area
Just north of the Inner Harbor is the city's historic financial district, which was a bustle of commercial activity between 1900 and 1925. Today's downtown commercial center is a mix of old and new, highlighting One Charles Center, a striking metal and glass building designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, widely regarded as a pioneer of modern architecture.

Have a hankering for pigs' ears, pickled eggs or oxtails? These and other foodstuffs are often available at the Cross Street Market. Or venture into the surrounding bohemian neighborhood to find chic taverns, restaurants and brew pubs. All of this is located virtually in the shadows of Baltimore's two great outdoor sports venues: Oriole Park at Camden Yards, home of the Baltimore Orioles baseball team, and M&T Bank Stadium, the roost of professional football's Baltimore Ravens.

Around the Inner Harbor, among eateries, shops and numerous spots to relax at water's edge, attractions include the Maryland Science Center, the National Aquarium in Baltimore, and Port Discovery, The Children's Museum. Learn about these destinations, as well as guided "Heritage Walk" tours of the Inner Harbor area and Little Italy neighborhood, at the Inner Harbor-based Baltimore Visitor Center. You can also take this opportunity to see more of Baltimore by linking into the National Historic Seaport Byway (page 97).

OLD LINE LORE: The Baltimore Basilica, which celebrated its bicentennial in 2006, is known as "America's First Cathedral" because it was the first metropolitan-area place of worship constructed following adoption of the U.S. Constitution. A recent major renovation effort now accentuates much of the Basilica's early 19th-century beauty as envisioned by original designer Benjamin Latrobe, architect of the U.S. Capitol.

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1st Mariner Arena
201 W. Baltimore St
Baltimore, 21201
410-347-2020
www.baltimorearena.com/contact-1st-mariner-arena.shtml

Baltimore Basilica
408 North Charles St
Baltimore, 21201
410-767-3565

Baltimore Heritage Walk
800 East Lombard St
Baltimore, 21202
443-514-5900

Baltimore Museum of Art
Art Museum Dr at Charles and 31st Sts
Art Museum Drive at Charles and 31st Streets

Inner Harbor Area
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Homewood House Museum
3400 N Charles St
Baltimore, 21218
410-516-5589
www.jhu.edu/historichouses

Lovely Lane Museum
2200 St. Paul St
Baltimore, 21218
410-889-4458
www.lovelylanemuseum.com

Maryland Science Center
Inner Harbor
Baltimore, 21230
410-545-5927
www.mdsci.org

Maryland Zoo in Baltimore
Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, 21217
410-366-LION
www.marylandzoo.org

National Aquarium in Baltimore
5021 East Pratt St
Baltimore, 21202
410-576-3800, 410-576-3833
www.aqua.org

National Lacrosse Museum and Hall of Fame
113 W. University Parkway
Baltimore, 21210
410-235.6882
http://www.uslacrosse.org/museum/index.phtml

Peabody Institute
1 E Mount Vernon Pl
Baltimore, 21202
410-659-8100
www.peabody.jhu.edu

Port Discovery
35 Market Pl
410-727-8120
www.portdiscovery.org

Sherwood Gardens
Highfield Rd & Greenway
4100 Greenway
Baltimore, 21212
410-785-0444

Walters Art Museum
600 N Charles St
Baltimore, 21201
410-547-9000
www.TheWalters.org
Baltimore is a beacon to the world. As one of America’s oldest seaports, it has witnessed four centuries’ worth of historical highlights and cultural transformations. Everywhere you look, you see evidence of the city’s maritime roots and ethnic diversity mingled with a wide variety of shops, restaurants, attractions and entertainment venues. Waterfront communities connected by this byway share rich traditions that only enhance their continued vitality.

In addition to being at the heart of Baltimore City’s heritage area, the National Historic Seaport of Baltimore connects a dozen tightly knit museums and attractions that are the focus of a partnership with the Living Classrooms Foundation together with the City of Baltimore and State of Maryland.

Continue past Butchers Hill, a 19th-century neighborhood of brick rowhouses overlooking the harbor, and find Broadway so that you can follow it into the National Historic District of Fells Point. This famous strip of cafés, markets, pubs and specialty shops was a busy shipbuilding center in the 18th and 19th centuries, producing many Baltimore clipper schooners. Enjoy a visit to the Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park and learn about African-American maritime history, the story of Frederick Douglass’s transition from enslaved child to educated young man, and Chesapeake Bay ship-building traditions. A stop at the Fells Point Maritime Museum takes you even deeper into the lives of shipbuilders, sailors, merchants and privateers.

Little Italy to Inner Harbor – Fleet, President, Lombard & Light sts

In the shadow of the tower atop St. Leo’s Catholic Church, a neat line of rowhouses lets you know you’re on the southern end of Little Italy. This vibrant ethnic village surrounding Fleet Street offers restaurants, cafes and grocery stores with a delectable Italian flavor. At the intersection of Fleet and President streets, visit the
on the 27th floor of Baltimore’s World Trade Center, and enjoy a panoramic view. You can take a water taxi. And there are even occasional opportunities to sail aboard Maryland’s Pride of Baltimore II, a reproduction of an 1812-era clipper privateer. This also marks the trailhead of the Historic National Road on page 7.

Stepping into the past is also very easy, thanks to the Baltimore Heritage Walk. This looping, 3.2-mile trail, which is marked every 20 feet by distinctive disks embedded in the sidewalk, connects 20 historic sites and museums, many of which are mentioned in this byway. Take a self-guided tour, or, from May through November, join a guided walk that covers half of the route and leaves from the Inner Harbor-based Baltimore Visitor Center.

Federal Hill to Locust Point – Key Hwy, Fort Ave.
Along Key Highway, another picture-perfect view of the Inner Harbor is available from Federal Hill. This vantage point was fortified by the Union army at the beginning of the Civil War, but today it’s a quiet place to sit or stroll. Then, beyond the popular Maryland Science Center on the south side of the harbor area, two more museums have earned national recognition. At the Baltimore Museum of Industry, visitors get hands-on experience with technologies once used in printing, glass making, oyster canning, and more. Then, for something completely different, the American Visionary Art Museum
brings some of the United States’ best, self-taught artistry to the forefront. This byway concludes at Locust Point, where, prior to World War I, thousands of immigrants arrived and either took a train west or stayed in Baltimore to make a new life. In fact, Locust Point was second only to New York’s Ellis Island as a receiving point for European immigrants. They passed the star-shaped fort that played a crucial role in the defense of Baltimore during the War of 1812. Today, the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine, which is also one of the final stops on the Star-Spangled Banner byway (see page 105), is still admired each year by thousands of travelers who want to see the place that inspired Francis Scott Key to write our National Anthem.

OLD LINE LORE: The Seven-Foot Knoll Lighthouse, which is now part of the Baltimore Maritime Museum, was originally situated more than 150 years ago at the mouth of the Patapsco River, where Lightkeeper Thomas Steinheiser rescued five men from a tugboat during a raging storm in 1933. Steinheiser was awarded a Congressional Medal, the highest civilian honor.

American Visionary Art Museum
800 Key Hwy, Baltimore 21230-3940
410-244-1900
www.avam.org

Baltimore Civil War Museum-President Street Station
601 President St, Baltimore 21202
410-385-5188
www.mdhs.org

Baltimore Maritime Museum
Piers 3 & 5, Baltimore 21231
410-396-3453
www.baltomaritimemuseum.org

Baltimore Museum of Industry
1415 Key Hwy, Baltimore 21230-5100
410-727-4808
www.thebmi.org

Fells Point Maritime Museum
1724 Thames St, Baltimore 21231
410-732-0278
www.mdhs.org

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine
2400 E Fort Ave, Baltimore 21230-5393
410-962-4290
www.nps.gov/fomc

Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park
1417 Thames St, Baltimore 21231
410-685-0295
www.douglassmyers.org

Pride of Baltimore II
Inner Harbor (when in port)
Baltimore 21202
410-539-1151, 1-888-554-7433
www.marylandspride.org

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine
2400 E Fort Ave, Baltimore 21230-5393
410-962-4290
www.nps.gov/fomc

Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park
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American Visionary Art Museum
800 Key Hwy, Baltimore 21230-3940
410-244-1900
www.avam.org

Baltimore Civil War Museum-President Street Station
601 President St, Baltimore 21202
410-385-5188
www.mdhs.org

Baltimore Maritime Museum
Piers 3 & 5, Baltimore 21231
410-396-3453
www.baltomaritimemuseum.org

Baltimore Museum of Industry
1415 Key Hwy, Baltimore 21230-5100
410-727-4808
www.thebmi.org

Fells Point Maritime Museum
1724 Thames St, Baltimore 21231
410-732-0278
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Frederick Douglass-Isaac Myers Maritime Park
1417 Thames St, Baltimore 21231
410-685-0295
www.douglassmyers.org

Pride of Baltimore II
Inner Harbor (when in port)
Baltimore 21202
410-539-1151, 1-888-554-7433
www.marylandspride.org
Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture
830 E Pratt St, Ste 400, Baltimore 21202
443-263-1800
www.africanamericanculture.org

Ride the Ducks of Baltimore
25 Light St, Ste 300, Baltimore 21202
410-727-3825
www.baltimoreducks.com

Top of the World Observation Level
World Trade Center, 401 E Pratt St, 27th Fl, Baltimore 21202-3016
410-837-VIEW
www.bop.org

USS Constellation Museum
Pier 1, 301 E Pratt St, Baltimore 21202
410-539-1797
www.constellation.org

Star-Spangled Banner
Navy respond with a fleet of lightly armed, shallow-draft barges that would be faster and more maneuverable than enemy vessels. Barney was subsequently promoted to commodore and, by May 1814, took charge of his new “Chesapeake Flotilla.”

Solomons to Benedict – MD 2/4, MD 264, Grays Road, MD 506, Sixes Road, MD 231

The War of 1812 had been raging for less than a year when British Navy ships blockaded the Chesapeake Bay. Capt. Joshua Barney, a hero of the American Revolution, came out of retirement to suggest that the U.S. Navy respond with a fleet of lightly armed, shallow-draft barges that would be faster and more maneuverable than enemy vessels. Barney was subsequently promoted to commodore and, by May 1814, took charge of his new “Chesapeake Flotilla.”

In Solomons, which is a marina-rimmed fishing village with fine seafood dining and a number of intriguing attractions, the Calvert Marine Museum has exhibits that feature war artifacts and trace troop
movements as Barney fought futilely against a larger and more heavily armed British force. Also, stop by the Solomons Regional Information Center, a Chesapeake Bay Gateways site, for more history of the area and details about other places to visit.

Near Lusby, where you can hunt for fossils at Calvert Cliffs State Park or go fishing at Flag Ponds Nature Park, follow a branch south on MD 265 to Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. This archaeology and history center tells of two battles that occurred in June 1814 and almost resulted in the capture of Barney’s flotilla. Each September, Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum hosts a War of 1812 Tavern Night celebration, as well as a commemorative “Battle of St. Leonard Creek” reenactment, which includes demonstrations of crafts and trades of the period. For a closer observation of the region’s unique environment, take a hike along a boardwalk through the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary, located along MD 506 near Prince Frederick. The town itself was burned by British raiders.

By July 1814, Royal Marines occupied Chaptico, Leonardtown and other Southern Maryland locations, raiding private homes and confiscating tobacco, flour and firearms. The following month found more than 4,000 enemy troops probing deeper along the Patuxent River, seeking a suitable landing spot for an invasion of Washington, D.C. They chose Benedict, a riverside town known as much for its fishing, sailing and seafood restaurants as its War of 1812 history.
around town. Next, tour Croom Airport, the first African-American owned and operated airport on the eastern seaboard. Upper Marlboro is also popular among equestrians who ride on miles of trails in local parks and attend events at the Prince George’s Equestrian Center/Show Place Arena.

An ambitious sidetrip east not only takes you to the Roots & Tides byway (page 121) but allows you to hear more War of 1812 tales at sites in Annapolis and across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. St. Michaels, for instance, has been known as “The Town that Fooled the British” ever since a summer night in 1813 when, to misdirect a British naval bombardment, residents supposedly extinguished all of their lights and hung lanterns in trees north of town.

Other relevant destinations are found just to the west, at places like Fort Washington. But the main line of this byway heads north into Bladensburg, where a waterfront park provides nice views of the narrow, Anacostia River bridge that British forces crossed to attack American defenses during the Battle of Bladensburg, August 24, 1814. Having scuttled their Chesapeake Flotilla to join the land-based troops, Commodore Barney and his men fought a brave but futile rear-guard action. In the battle’s aftermath, Rosalie Stier Calvert, known as the “Mistress of Riversdale”, volunteered slaves to bury the dead, and then collected weapons and other items. This Federal-period plantation home now offers docent-guided tours.

British forces soon entered Washington, D.C., unopposed, burned many of the public buildings, and then returned to the town of Benedict to re-embark their ships. Your route, however, follows the Baltimore Washington Parkway (MD 295), planned in the 1920s as part of the federal government’s parkway system for Washington, D.C. The parkway exemplifies the aesthetic and design principles of this important phase of American transportation history. Follow MD 295 up past College Park, Greenbelt and Beltsville. Cultural outlets in these areas range from performing arts venues and an agricultural research center to space flight and aviation museums.

America’s “Second War of Independence” lit up Baltimore in September 1814. Expecting to cruise with little resistance into the city’s harbor, a British fleet was instead frustrated by Lt. Col. George Armistead and his men inside Fort McHenry. Their courage was witnessed by Francis Scott Key, a Maryland lawyer who had been detained on board a cartel vessel after facilitating an American prisoner’s release. By the rockets’ red glare, Key watched bombs burst all along the shoreline. But when the smoke cleared and British ships pulled back, a large American flag — measuring 42 feet by 30 feet — still fluttered over the fort’s ramparts. At sunset on most days, visitors to the Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine can hear the playing of Key’s “Star-Spangled Banner” while participating in a ceremonial flag lowering.

The hand-penned version of Key’s poem is displayed at the Maryland Historical Society. Also in Baltimore, the home of Fort McHenry flagmaker Mary Pickersgill has been preserved as the Flag House & Star-Spangled Banner Museum.
At this point, follow the National Historic Seaport byway (page 97) to investigate 19th-century trades and lifestyles. Visit the Fells Point Maritime Museum to learn about privateer clipper ships that operated during the war, and then see the Inner Harbor-based Pride of Baltimore II, a re-creation of an 1812-era Baltimore Clipper.

OLD LINE Lore: British Major General Robert Ross, impressed by the heroics of Commodore Joshua Barney’s troops while other American forces hastily retreated during the Battle of Bladensburg, not only set the injured commodore free but also pardoned all of Barney’s “Bluecoats.” During the Battle of North Point about three weeks later, Ross was mortally wounded by a sharpshooter—one of Commodore Barney’s pardoned soldiers.

The Star-Spangled Banner byway ends here, but in the town of Frederick you can discover more about Francis Scott Key and visit the cemetery where he is buried. The Historic National Road byway (page 7) extends to Frederick from Baltimore.

Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary
2880 Grays Road
Prince Frederick, 20678
410-535-3400

Bladensburg Waterfront Park
Anacostia River
4601 Annapolis Road
Bladensburg, 20710
301-779-0371
http://www.pgarks.com/places/natur e/bladensburg.html

Calvert Marine Museum
14150 Solomons Island Rd
Solomons, 20688
410-326-2042
www.calvertnarinemuseum.com

Flag House & Star-Spangled Banner Museum
844 E Pratt St
Baltimore, 21202
410-837-1793
www.flaghouse.org

Fort McHenry National Monument & Historic Shrine
2400 E Fort Ave
Baltimore, 21250-5393
410-962-4290
www.nps.gov/fomc

Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum
10515 Mackall Rd
St. Leonard, 20685
410-586-8500
www.jefpat.org

Just outside the city, during the early hours of September 12, 1814, the overland Battle for Baltimore began with the landing of 4,500 British troops at what is now North Point State Park. After defeating the Americans at North Point, the British marched to Baltimore but failed to outflank city defenses at Hampstead Hill and withdrew back to North Point to re-board their ships and depart victorious down the Chesapeake Bay.
Robert E. Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia had recently surrendered to Union forces, and the mending of America was just getting under way. But, shortly after 10 p.m. on the night of April 14, 1865, thoughts of reconciliation suffered a serious setback. John Wilkes Booth, a 26-year-old actor and staunch Confederate sympathizer, entered Ford’s Theatre in Washington, D.C., and shot President Abraham Lincoln in the back of the head. As the president lay dying, Booth fled into Southern Maryland and eluded Federal troops for nearly two weeks before being cornered in a Virginia barn.

This byway follows a route that is one of four Maryland Civil War Trails (another, the Antietam Campaign, appears as a byway on page 39). Each trail brings you face to face with both familiar and lesser-known Civil War stories, while also placing you among panoramic scenery and presenting convenient recreational opportunities. For a free map guide to Maryland Civil War Trails, call 1-888-248-4597 or go online at www.visitmaryland.org.

Washington, D.C. to Waldorf — Pennsylvania Ave (MD 4), Branch Ave (MD 5), Old Branch Avenue, Brandywine Road, and Mattawoman-Beantown Road (MD 5)

With the Civil War nearing its end, John Wilkes Booth and a band of conspirators plotted to kill President Abraham Lincoln. Booth knew of the president’s plans to attend a performance of “Our American Cousin” at the Ford’s Theatre in Washington, D.C., and was familiar with the layout of the building, having performed there less than a month earlier. Sneaking into the president’s box, the assassin shot Lincoln and then leapt dramatically onto the Ford’s Theatre stage, breaking his leg but managing to make good his escape. While the president was moved across the street to Petersen’s Boarding House (the place where Lincoln would die), Booth fled on horseback over the Navy Yard Bridge to rendezvous with accomplice David Herold.

Booth and Herold followed Old Branch Avenue and Brandywine Road and came to a tavern that Mary E. Surratt operated as a Confederate safehouse. Today, the Clinton-based Surratt House Museum tells the tale...
Branching off to the west of US 301 on MD 6, you can visit one of the oldest communities on the East Coast, Port Tobacco. Formerly an Indian settlement, it became a major seaport in the 17th century and was the Charles County seat during the Civil War. Visit a museum inside the Port Tobacco Courthouse to see archaeological finds and gather more Civil War knowledge, including information about George Adzerodt, an assassination conspirator who lived in town.

Port Tobacco to Popes Creek – US 301, Popes Creek Rd, Edge Hill Rd, US 301

In the dark of night on April 20, Booth and Herold arrived at the Potomac River near Popes Creek Road and mistakenly rowed into Nanjemoy Creek, where they stayed until crossing into Virginia the next night. The creek has plenty of natural charm as a nesting site for bald eagles and a fishing hole for boaters who use the Friendship Landing ramp. You can find out all about recreational and sight-seeing opportunities in this area from the Crain Memorial Welcome Center on US 301 north.

Cross the Potomac River on US 301 into Virginia, heading toward Port Royal where Booth and Herold passed on their escape south. On the morning of April 26, Federal troops found Booth and Herold in a barn on Richard Garrett’s farm. Herold surrendered, was taken to Washington, D.C. to stand trial, and was hanged. Refusing to turn himself in, Booth was shot while still hiding in the barn. He died on the porch of the nearby farmhouse.

OLD LINE LORE: John Wilkes Booth was born on a farm near Bel Air, MD, the ninth of 10 Booth children. One of his older brothers, famed Shakespearean actor Edwin Booth, reportedly saved President Abraham Lincoln’s son, Robert, from falling into the path of a train in New Jersey several months prior to the president’s assassination.
Dr. Samuel A. Mudd Home and Museum
3725 Dr. Samuel Budd Rd
Waldorf, 20601
301-645-6870

Ford’s Theatre National Historic Site
National Mall
Washington, D.C.
www.nps.gov/foth/index.htm

Friendship Landing, Nanjemoy Creek
Friendship Landing Road
Just off MD 425
Nanjemoy, MD 20662

Petersen’s Boarding House
National Mall
Washington, D.C.
www.nps.gov/archive/foth/hwld.htm

Port Tobacco Courthouse
Off MD 6 on Chapel Point Rd.
Port Tobacco, 20677
301-934-4313

St. Mary’s Church and Cemetery
11555 St. Mary’s Church Rd
Charlotte Hall, 20622
301-934-8825;

Surratt House Museum
9188 Brandywine Rd
Clinton, 20735
301-868-1121
www.surratt.org

Zekiah Swamp Natural Environmental Area
Cedarville State Forest
MD 4
Brandywine, 20613
301-888-1622.
Annapolis to Fairhaven – Rowe Blvd, West St, MD 2, MD 253, MD 214, MD 468, MD 256, Franklin Gibson Rd, Leitch Rd, Town Point Rd & MD 423

Resting beside the Chesapeake Bay just south of Baltimore and east of Washington, D.C., Annapolis appears much as it did back in the post-Revolutionary War years, when it became the first peacetime capital of our new nation. Four signers of the Declaration of Independence made their home here, and today you won’t find another U.S. city with more surviving 18th-century buildings still in commercial and residential use – just a couple of reasons why Annapolis has been listed among “America’s Dozen Distinctive Destinations” by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Stroll red brick streets once traveled by colonists, look up at the rare wooden dome of the Maryland State House, window-shop for everything from maritime antiques to designer clothing, or just relax in a pub and watch the world go by. At the center of the action is the U.S. Naval Academy campus, which, like the downtown Annapolis area, is a National Historic Landmark. Guided walking tours of the Academy grounds give you a taste of life as a midshipman and lead you to the crypt of patriot John Paul Jones.

Maryland’s state capital is also “America’s Sailing Capital,” so once you’ve finished exploring Annapolis by land, take to the sea for fishing or sightseeing trip. From there, head toward Edgewater on MD 253 and visit friendly Chesapeake Bay communities, and share in their warmth, absorb their culture and explore their deep maritime roots.

When you feel a gentle bay breeze brush your cheek, when you hear water pushing softly against a wooden pier, when you taste the unmistakable flavor of Maryland seafood, you know you’ve arrived in waterman’s country. This Western Shore byway, which begins in our state capital of Annapolis and incorporates the Four Rivers Heritage Area, is a feast for the senses as you visit friendly Chesapeake Bay communities, and share in their warmth, absorb their culture and explore their deep maritime roots.

Step through one of the several National Park Service’s designated Chesapeake Bay Gateways in the area and be introduced to the beauty of a true natural treasure. Come sailing, paddling, bird watching, museum hopping, or just relax on a sandy beach and watch the sun set on another golden Chesapeake Bay day.

During his explorations of the bay region four centuries ago, Capt. John Smith noted, “Heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man’s habitation.” These words have taken on added significance with the designation of the all-water Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, which commemorates the voyages of Captain John Smith and his crew on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries during 1607-1609. Many bayside attractions, including several from Annapolis to Southern Maryland provide additional information about Smith.

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Check for powerboat and sailboat rentals while you’re in Edgewater, or drive a little farther south on MD 214 east, then MD 468 south and charter a 50-foot ketch in the historic village of Galesville, where you can also visit a museum operated by the Galesville Heritage Society. Both London Town and the Galesville Heritage Museum are Chesapeake Bay Gateways, as is the Shady Side-based Captain Salem Avery House. A restored waterman’s cottage located on a peninsula east of the West River, the Avery House returns you to bay life as it was in the 1860s.

To get an up close look at the Bay, stop at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, which encompasses 2,800 acres of land along the Rhode River, a subestuary of the Chesapeake Bay, and includes forest, cropland, pasture, freshwater wetlands, tidal marshes, and estuaries. Then proceed south on MD 256 and east on MD 261 around Herring Bay, stopping in Fairhaven to enjoy the serenity of another bayside village.

Fairhaven to Plum Point – MD 423, MD 261 & MD 263

After relaxing at a Rosehaven beach-front inn, you can backtrack briefly on MD 423 to the Herrington Harbor North Historic Village, a collection of outbuildings that includes a one-room schoolhouse, African-American meeting house and residence. Following the bay shoreline south on MD 261, you soon come to the sister towns of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach. Enjoy charming restaurants, marinas, antiques shops and bed and breakfasts, and then step back to the early 1900s at the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum that also serves as a Chesapeake Bay Gateway. The museum, housed in an 1898 railway station, also has exhibits on the Victorian resort and amusement park that once drew boatloads and trainloads of visitors to Chesapeake Beach from Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Nowadays, you can treat yourself to pampering at a local spa or enjoy summer fun at a water park with eight slides, a lazy river and other attractions.

When you reach the town of Willows, sidetrack east along Breezy Point Road toward a sandy, half-mile-long public beach that is available for picnicking, swimming, fishing and crabbing. Just to the south on MD 263 east, and still hugging the bay shoreline, is the town of Plum Point, but then you’ll want to turn inland on MD 263 west and proceed toward Prince Frederick to hook up with the Star-Spangled Banner Trail (page 105).
OLD LINE Lore: The Western Shore town of London, established as a tobacco port in 1683, virtually disappeared in the late 18th century following an economic depression brought about by the Revolutionary War. The archaeological remains of the "lost town" are now being unearthed at Historic London Town and Gardens.

Breezy Point Beach and Campground
5230 Breezy Point Rd
Chesapeake Beach 20732

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
National Park Service
Chesapeake Bay Program Office
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109
Annapolis, 21403
1-866-BAY-WAYS (866-229-9297)
www.nps.gov/cajo

Captain Salem Avery House
1418 E W Shady Side Rd
Shady Side, 20764
410-867-4486, 410-867-2901
wwwaveryhouse.org

Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum
4155 Mears Ave,
Chesapeake Beach, 20732
410-257-3892
www.cbrm.org

Chesapeake Beach Water Park
4079 Gordon Stinnett Ave,
Chesapeake Beach 20732
410-257-1404, 301-855-8398

Galesville Heritage Museum
988 Main St
Galesville, 20765
410-867-0373
www.galesvilleheritagesociety.org

Herrington Harbour North Historic Village
389 Deale Road,
Tracy’s Landing/Deale, 20751
410-867-4343

Historic London Town and Gardens
839 Londontown Rd,
Edgewater, 21037-2197
410-222-1919
www.historiclondontown.com

Maryland State House
91 State Cir,
Annapolis, 21401
410-974-3400
www.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/html

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
647 Contees Wharf Road
Edgewater, 21037-0028
443-482-2200
www.serc.si.edu

U.S. Naval Academy
Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center, 52
King George St, Gate 1,
Annapolis, 21402
410-263-6933
www.navyonline.com

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
647 Contees Wharf Road
Edgewater, 21037-0028
443-482-2200
www.serc.si.edu

U.S. Naval Academy
Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center, 52
King George St, Gate 1,
Annapolis, 21402
410-263-6933
www.navyonline.com
William Brown House
The London Town Foundation
839 Londontown Road
Edgewater, 21037
410-222-1919

William Paca House and Garden
186 Prince George St,
Annapolis, 21401
410-267-7619, 1-800-603-4020
www.annapolis.org
Southwest along MD 6, below an inviting place named Welcome, sits the Christ Church-Durham Parish. Dating to 1692, it is one of the original 30 parishes of the Church of England chartered in the Province of Maryland. The brick structure you see today was constructed in the 1730s.

Keep Mattawoman Creek to your left as you drive up MD 224 and arrive at Smallwood State Park. The estate of General William Smallwood, a Revolutionary War hero and fourth governor of Maryland, is the centerpiece of the park, which also has a marina that is the launching point for national bass-fishing competitions.

From there, sidetrack into Purse State Park, a popular fossil-hunting location set on the Potomac River at Wades Bay.

The Religious Freedom Tour incorporates many of the nation’s oldest churches.

America’s roots of “toleration” run throughout Southern Maryland, where the original English settlers – Protestant and Catholic alike – recognized the rights of individuals to hold dissenting religious opinions. Now, such freedoms are celebrated at long-established places of worship all over the region.

This byway, with several branches that reach toward the Potomac River, incorporates many of the nation’s oldest churches, the site of the first Roman Catholic Mass held in English-speaking America, and Maryland’s colonial capital, Historic St. Mary’s City. For some travelers, it’s a spiritual pilgrimage; others simply admire the history. Either way, it’s an inspirational journey through beautiful countryside, allowing you to commune with nature while traveling into the heart of the Southern Maryland Heritage Area.

Upper Loop from Port Tobacco – Rose Hill Rd, MD 225, MD 224, MD 425 & MD 6

Port Tobacco was built on one of the earliest settlement sites in Maryland. When the first Europeans arrived, they found a Potopco Indian village here. Soon after, a missionary outpost was established by Jesuit Father Andrew White, one of the colony’s original settlers. As you travel through town, drop by a one-room schoolhouse that was built in 1872, and then tour the Port Tobacco Courthouse, now a museum containing tobacco exhibits and archaeological finds.

189 miles from Port Tobacco to Point Lookout
lived in the 18th-century, Georgian mansion that dominates this 322-acre plantation. Chapel Point to St. Clements Island – Chapel Point Rd, Pope’s Creek Rd, US 301, MD 234, MD 238, MD 242

A spectacular view of the Potomac and Port Tobacco rivers awaits as you head toward Chapel Point, stopping at St. Ignatius Catholic Church and St. Thomas Manor. The church, founded by Jesuits in 1641, has remained active longer than any other parish in the country, and the manor house, constructed a century later, is the oldest Jesuit residence in continuous use in the world. Just beyond the village of Pope’s Creek, which provides a link to the Booth’s Escape byway (page 115), you soon arrive at a branch that follows MD 257 and MD 254 to Cobb Island, well-known among fishermen and seafood aficionados. On the way to the island is Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, which was built in 1750 and counted a young Thomas Clagett among its parishioners. In 1792, Clagett became the first Episcopal bishop consecrated in the United States.

Back on the main route, you head east through the Zekiah Swamp Natural Environment Area toward Budds Creek, and then follow MD 234 into Chaptico, a port town that was occupied by the British during both the American Revolution and War of 1812. Christ Episcopal Church, King and Queen Parish, was built here in 1736, on land donated by Francis Scott Key’s grandfather. As you loop back toward Port Tobacco, northwest of town along MD 225 is the Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area, which offers hunting, fishing and hiking around a 23-acre lake. Another option is to veer off of MD 225 into Mt. Carmel, site of the first nunnery in the colonies. Buildings have been restored using the original foundations of the convent, which was founded in 1790 by four Carmelite nuns together with Father Charles Neal of nearby Chandler’s Hope. All five of Neal’s brothers also became Catholic priests, with one, Leonard Neal, ascending to the position of Archbishop. Your last stop on the first portion of this byway is the Thomas Stone National Historic Site. Stone, one of four signers of the Declaration of Independence to hail from Maryland,
Branching off from Chaptico, follow MD 234 south to MD 242, which leads to Coltons Point. Here, the nationally accredited St. Clement's Island Museum features exhibits on Maryland's earliest history. Inquire about water taxi service to St. Clement's Island, the “Birthplace of Maryland,” where Father White celebrated the first Catholic Mass in the British-American colonies. Today, the island is a 40-acre state park on which a 40-foot-tall cross honors those first colonists who, in 1634, conceptualized separation of church and state. The principles of religious liberty that they championed were a precursor to democratic ideals that inspired the framers of Maryland's Bill of Rights and later contributed to the United States' Bill of Rights.

Chaptico to Point Lookout – MD 234, MD 243, MD 5 & MD 249

Back on MD 234 and heading east once again, look for a sidetrack that takes you down MD 243 to St. Francis Xavier Church, the oldest Roman Catholic church in the state. Father James Ashby is believed to have built the present, wood-shingled structure just before his death in 1767.

MD 234 becomes MD 5 as you proceed farther east, entering the heart of Leonardtown. Attractions of note include the Old Jail Museum, a tourist information center that also contains early Maryland artifacts, and Tudor Hall, a 250-year-old Colonial house that the St. Mary's County Historical Society operates as a genealogical research center. The next branch of this byway comes up in Callaway, where MD 249 leads to St. George’s Episcopal Church in Valley Lee. The oldest Episcopal parish in Maryland, St. George’s has held services since 1638. Before returning to the main route, follow MD 249 down to Pinty Point, site of the oldest lighthouse on the Potomac River. Built in 1836, the sentinel has been called the “Lighthouse of Presidents” because its surroundings were a popular summer destination for U.S. heads of state such as James Madison and Theodore Roosevelt. Beyond the lighthouse, the U-1105 Black Panther Historic Shipwreck Preserve is an excellent place to go boating.

Probably the most visited destination on this byway is Historic St. Mary’s City. Maryland’s capital from 1634 to 1695, it was the fourth permanent English settlement in America, and site of the first Catholic chapel in the colonies. Tourists, historians and living history interpreters continue to work toward re-discovering and demonstrating life in St. Mary’s City as it was in the 1600s, with a tobacco plantation, Town Center, Indian hamlet and replica of the Maryland Dove, one of the two square-rigged ships that brought those first settlers here. Nearby is Trinity Episcopal Church, which was built with bricks salvaged from the original State House, and at the entrance to Historic St. Mary’s City is the Freedom of Conscience Monument. Erected in 1934, the monument commemorates a 1649 Act passed by the General Assembly that mandated religious toleration of all Trinitarians, laying the foundation for Maryland's Bill of Rights.
for the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Along Mill Creek is St. Mary’s College of Maryland, established in 1840 as a female seminary and now operating as a co-educational state college. Then you pass the late-18th-century St. Ignatius Church, off Beachville Rd, before making your way to Point Lookout State Park. Point Lookout once flourished as a summer resort, and today the state park offers beaches, a boat launch, fishing areas and campgrounds. But there’s another side to this picturesque peninsula—during the Civil War, Point Lookout was a notorious prison camp where more than 4,000 Confederate soldiers died. A museum and monuments are found on site.

OLD LINE LORE: As St. Thomas Manor was being built on the Potomac River in 1741, some observers commented that the Jesuits were “raising a palace unbecoming a religious order.” But it didn’t deter many Catholic missionaries, including John Carroll, first Bishop of the United States, from enjoying the manor’s ambiance while meeting here on business.

Christ Church-Durham Parish
8685 Ironsides Road,
Nanjemoy 20662
301-743-7099

Christ Episcopal Church, King and Queen Parish
Maddox Rd, Rt 238
Chaptico 20621
301-884-3451
www.christepiscopalchaptico.org

Historic St. Mary’s City
P.O. Box 39
St. Mary’s City, 20686
800-762-1634 – 240-895-4990 – 240-895-4960
www.smmaryscity.org

Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area
Myrtle Grove Road
La Plata, 20646
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/myrtlegrove.html

Old Jail Museum
11 Courthouse Drive
Leonardtown, 20650
301-475-2467
www.smchistory.org

Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area
Myrtle Grove Road
La Plata, 20646
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/myrtlegrove.html

Old Jail Museum
11 Courthouse Drive
Leonardtown, 20650
301-475-2467
www.smchistory.org

Point Lookout State Park
11175 Point Lookout Road
Scotland, 20687
301-872-5688
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/southern/pointlookout.html

Port Tobacco Courthouse
P.O. Box 344
Port Tobacco, 20677
301-934-2474
Smallwood State Park

Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park
St. Mary’s County Government
23115 Leonard Hall Dr
Leonardtown, 20650
www.smmaryscity.org
St. Clement’s Island Museum
38370 Point Breeze Road
Colton’s Point, 20626
301-769-2222
www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/musesums

St. Clement’s Island State Park
c/o Point Lookout State Park
11175 Point Lookout Road
Scotland, 20687
301-872-5688
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/sout hern/stclements.html

St. Ignatius Church/St. Thomas Manor
8855 Chapel Point Rd
Port Tobacco, 20677
301-934-8245
www.chapelpoint.org

Chesapeake Country
It is said that in “Chesapeake Country,” life moves gently with the ebb and flow of the tides. Your journey takes you past fertile farmland graced by handsome—often historic—manor houses. You enter small towns rich with art, culture and pure country charm, and then slip through secluded spots surrounded by unspoiled nature. And never are you far from water—either the Chesapeake Bay or one of its tidalwater tributaries.

Divided into Upper Eastern Shore and mid-shore sections, this ambitious byway winds through the bulk of two Maryland Heritage Areas—first, the Stories of the Chesapeake, which takes you through the natural beauty of this special land; then, the Heart of Chesapeake Country, with its pristine waterways, historic waterfront villages and wide natural expanses. The upper Eastern Shore section has also been designated as a National Scenic Byway.

This tidewater region has shaped the lifestyles and livelihoods of generations of watermen, shipbuilders, and tobacco farmers. Travel through this region will take you through water-related communities where the people are up with the season to reap the harvest from the bay, and towns that have been welcoming travelers for centuries.

Upper Eastern Shore section from Chesapeake City—MD 213 & MD 18
Begin your trip in Chesapeake City, at the western end of the Chesapeake
and Delaware Canal. Among the town's many restored, 19th-century commercial and residential buildings is a museum that tells of the C&D Canal's significance as a trade route linking Baltimore and Philadelphia.

Heading down MD 213, look for a sign marking the site of Bohemia Manor, which was originally owned by Augustine Herman, a surveyor said to be the first man to map Maryland. The next town on your journey, Cecilton, is located at the largest crossroads south of the canal, just east of three bayside sidetracks onto MD 282 and beyond. First, there is Crystal Beach, popular for swimming and fishing. Then comes the Stemmer's Run Wildlife Management Area, where you can participate in upland game viewing and seasonal hunting. Finally, a sidetrack to Grove Point takes you past the Mount Harmon Plantation, featuring an 18th-century manor home set amid a boxwood garden, tobacco prize house and nature preserve.

Back on MD 213 south, cross to the southern bank of the Sassafras River and enter Georgetown, which was raided and burned by British troops during the War of 1812. Only two houses and a church were spared. MD 213 takes a hard right turn in Galena and runs toward Kennedyville. Just north on Turners Creek Landing, the Kent Museum features displays of antique agricultural machinery and other items from rural life. Nature trails surround the museum.

Another sidetrack, this one from MD 298 to MD 292, brings you to Betterton, a Victorian resort during
the golden age of the Chesapeake Bay steamboat. The road leading to Betterton’s beach and pier descends a steep hill past fine Victorian-era homes.

On MD 213 once again, you pass through rolling farmland en route to Chestertown, a Colonial port on the Chester River. Wealthy merchants and planters built the elegant brick townhouses that dominate Chestertown’s historic district. Among these is the Geddes-Piper House, now the period-furnished headquarters of the Kent County Historical Society. Other attractions include a 3,000-acre wildlife and agricultural research area known as Chesapeake Farms; a schooner named Sultana that sails as the “Schoolship of the Chesapeake”. Here, the byway branches off toward Rock Hall by way of MD 20. Arguably the pleasure-boating center of the Upper Shore, Rock Hall has more than a dozen marinas offering safe mooring and charter services. In addition, you’ll find exceptional seafood dining, visual and performing arts, the old-fashioned Durding’s drug store (complete with soda fountain), and a nearby museum dedicated to decades past when the Tolchester Beach amusement park operated just up the road. To learn about the area’s Native American, Colonial and maritime heritage, stop by the Rock Hall Museum. Next, follow MD 445 south to the Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, an island ecosystem with extensive hiking trails.

Returning to Chestertown and taking a southward course along MD 213, you soon arrive in Church Hill. St.
Luke’s Episcopal Church, which rests on a hill overlooking the center of town, has been restored to its early-18th-century glory. Nearby is the Church Hill Theatre, presenting classic, contemporary and children’s plays in a converted 1930s movie house.

In Centreville, visit the Museum of Eastern Shore Life to see artifacts from the surrounding region, and then take a closer look at some of the town’s 18th- and 19th-century homes and buildings. On the square at the town’s center is a 1792 structure that is Maryland’s oldest courtroom. Look also for the Federal-period Tucker House and a finely furnished, circa-1744 plantation home named Wright’s Chance.

Go west on MD 18 and follow it to Queenstown. Several existing structures are evidence of the area’s rich Colonial heritage. Plus, you can shop at local outlet stores before entering Grasonville, home of an environmental center operated by the Wildfowl Trust of North America.

As you travel four miles across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, you could be traveling to Maryland’s capital of Annapolis, where you can hook into the Roots & Tides byway (page 121). Otherwise, return to the Eastern Shore mainland via US 50 and start the Mid-shore part of your journey.

To begin the second leg of this byway, either start from Centreville and follow MD 213 south, or take US 50 past a sidetrack to the Wye Mills Natural Resource Management Area.

In the actual town of Wye Mills, look for a gristmill that ground flour for George Washington’s troops during the Revolutionary War. Visit where the largest white oak in the nation, which fell in 2002 during a vicious storm, fell in 2002 during a vicious storm, and a true genetic clone of the tree was planted here in 2006.

Follow MD 662 until it ends, at which time you can pick up US 50 and enter Easton. Its reputation as one of the best small towns in America is partly attributable to its variety of arts and entertainment options, from the art-
on the Dover Bridge. During Civil War times, people, horses and cows were charged a five-cent toll to use the bridge. Beyond the river in Preston, you link up with the Underground Railroad byway (page 153), but then veer off toward Hurlock. This is where an authentic paddlewheel boat waits to take you river cruising.

Pass through East New Market on MD 33, first settled in 1660 as an Native-American trading post and later serving as the center of American Methodism. As you hug the Choptank River shoreline, move through a small fishing village called Secretary, and then cross paths once more with the Underground Railroad byway as you branch off toward Cambridge. Bike routes around here incorporate both small-town scenes and wide-open country, while local history not only includes brushes with Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman, but also Wild West sharpshooter Annie Oakley and several former Maryland governors. Water adventures are available via skipjack sailing cruises and custom boat tours, or glimpse the life of an Eastern Shore waterman at the Richardson Maritime Museum and Boatworks in Cambridge.

Continue on MD 343 toward Hudson and sight your binoculars on the Sharps Island Lighthouse offshore. Now it’s time to doubleback to Cambridge, venture south on MD 341, and face your next decision about which way to turn. One option is to head south on MD 341 into the heart of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, which beckons bikers to view a vast salt-marsh ecosystem, Maryland. The place is even admired by monarch butterflies, thousands of which stop here every August as they wing their way toward Mexico.

Return to the main route by way of MD 329 toward Bellevue, crossing the Tred Avon River on board what is believed to be America’s oldest privately owned ferry, which dates back to the 17th century. On the opposite shore of the river is Oxford, where you’ll find a sizable fishing and oyster fleet along with many fine marinas. Exhibits on the area’s heritage and maritime history are found inside the Oxford Museum, while just down the road is a replica of the first Oxford Customs House.

After making your way back to Easton on MD 333, head east along MD 331, crossing the Choptank River on Dec. 108. During Civil War times, people, horses and cows were charged a five-cent toll to use the bridge. Beyond the river in Preston, you link up with the Underground Railroad byway (page 153), but then veer off toward Hurlock. This is where an authentic paddlewheel boat waits to take you river cruising.

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and canoeists and kayakers to enjoy relaxing tidewater excursions. Blackwater also boasts the largest nesting population of bald eagles on the East Coast.

A more westerly route on MD 335 takes you on this byway's Hooper Island Branch, skirting the Blackwater refuge en route to a chain of three, narrow islands named for one of the first families to settle in the area. Come prepared to fish, boat and scan the bay for the 63-foot-tall Hooper Island Lighthouse. To the east is the Elliott Island Branch, which includes a stop at the Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area. Fishing Bay's lush tidal wetlands have earned it the nickname “Maryland's Everglades.”

Finally, you're ready to drive along the Nanticoke River up to Eldorado, from which you can either continue north toward Federalsburg and the Idylwild Wildlife Management Area, or turn southeast to investigate the Lower Eastern Shore on the Blue Crab byway (page 161). The two byways join in the vicinity of Sharptown, which features a boat launch for easy exploration of the scenic Nanticoke and its tributaries.

**OLD LINE LORE:** Celebrated author James Michener wrote an outline for his novel Chesapeake in an Oxford-based tavern that won his heart with its succulent crab cakes. The original manuscript for Michener's work is kept at a library in Easton.

Avalon Theatre
40 E Dover St
Easton, 21601
410-822-0345
www.avalontheatre.com

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge
2145 Key Wallace Dr
Cambridge, 21613
410-228-0401
www.friendsofblackwater.com

Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Museum (1837)
815 Bethel Rd
Chesapeake City, 21915
410-885-5622

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum
Navy Point
St. Michaels, 21663
410-745-2916
www.cbmm.org

Cray House and Train Depot
Cockey’s Ln
Stevensville, 21666
410-604-2100
www.historicqac.org

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge
1730 Eastern Neck Rd
Rock Hall, 21661
410-639-7056
www.kentcounty/gov/parkrec/parks

Geddes-Piper House
101 Church Alley
Chestertown, 21620
410-778-3499
www.hskmd.com

Kent Museum
Turners Creek Landing
Kennedyville, 13685
410-348-9149
www.kentcountyfarmuseum

Mount Harmon Plantation
Groove Rd to Mt. Harmon Rd
Earleville, 21919
410-275-8819
www.mountharmon.org

Museum of Eastern Shore Life
120 Dulin Clark Rd.
Centerville, 21617
410-758-8640, 410-758-0979

Nanticoke River

150
Oxford Museum
101 S Morris St
Oxford, 21654
410-226-0191
www.oxfordmuseum.org

Oxford-Bellevue Ferry
End of MD Rt 333
Oxford, 21654
410-745-9023
www.oxfordferry.com

Pickering Creek Audubon Center
11450 Audubon Ln
Easton, 21601
410-822-4903
www.pickeringcreek.org

Richardson Maritime Museum
and Boatworks
401 High St
Cambridge, 21613
410-221-1871
www.richardsonmuseum.org

Rock Hall Museum
5585 Main St
Rock Hall, 21661
410-639-2296
www.rockhallmd.com/museum

Schooner Sultana 1768 and the
Sultana Center
Cross St
Chestertown, 21620
410-778-5954
www.schoonersultana.com

Wildfowl Trust of North America
Chesapeake Bay Environmental
Center
600 Discovery Ln
Grasonville, 21638
410-827-6694
www.cbec-wtna.org

Wye Grist Mill and Museum
Rt 662, 14296 Old Wye Mills Road
Wye Mills, 21657
410-827-6909
www.ce.jhu.edu/mdcive/wyemill.htm
Along a secret network of trails, waterways and sanctuaries known as the Underground Railroad, enslaved people fled north out of Southern states to escape bondage. For them, the Civil War couldn’t end quickly enough, and the thirst for freedom far outweighed the dangers involved with trudging across strange lands, trusting no one and yet often counting on the selfless kindness of strangers.

Maryland is a state rich with African-American heritage but was often torn during the 19th century by divided opinions concerning the institution of slavery. Here you can learn more about these freedom seekers.

This Eastern Shore byway follows a mostly northern path across a landscape that has changed little in the last century and a half. It allows you to better understand the stories of the Underground Railroad, many of them as told by local anti-slavery activists who risked their own lives to aid their fellow Americans.

**Cambridge to East New Market**

- Maryland Avenue, Race Street (MD 341), MD 16, MD 335, Key Wallace Drive, Greenbrier Road, Bucktown Road, MD 16, US 50, MD 16

The starting point for your Underground Railroad journey is the Visitors Center at Sailwinds Park, found just off the east end of the U.S. 50 Bridge in Cambridge and remember to pick up a copy of the Finding a Way to Freedom brochure. Easily distinguishable by the large sail canopy stretched over the building, the visitor center is in the Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area and a Chesapeake Bay Gateway, which provides information about, and ready access to, both the Choptank Riverfront and the history of Cambridge.

Travel across the Cambridge Creek to a courthouse building, constructed in 1854, that was the scene of slave auctions, escapes, trials and convictions, which are told on a large interpretive sign. Along a scenic walk within the Cambridge National Historic District is the Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center. Nicknamed “The Moses of her People” for her courageous work as a “conductor” on the Underground Railroad, it has been documented that Tubman helped more than 70 enslaved people reach freedom.

Follow MD 341 south to MD 16 west, where you will find the Stanley Institute, a one-room, African-American school established by the Freedmen’s Bureau shortly after the Civil War. Continue out to Stewart’s Canal,
Branching south of Bucktown, drive to historic, single-lane Bestpitch Ferry Bridge and look out at a landscape that is mostly unchanged since the mid-19th century. A little farther along is the Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area, with its many water trails and unspoiled scenery.

Now head north, having completed the Cambridge loop, before following US 50 which was dug by slaves to move timber to market. Next, enter Church Creek, which served as a major pre-Civil War shipbuilding center, employing both black and white workers. An interpretive marker is on the site.

A Taylors Island Branch of this byway runs west on MD 16 toward the Chesapeake Bay, passing the late-17th-century Old Trinity Church and the town of Madison, where Tubman labored for several years. Along the way, you will pass Stewart’s canal that was laboriously dug by enslaved people to move timber to market. Returning east on 16, then south on MD 335, you link into the Chesapeake Country byway (page 139) while traveling beside the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge. Among Blackwater’s many nature-viewing and outdoor recreational opportunities is the two-mile Tubman Road Hiking Trail, which incorporates the remains of a homestead established in the 1600s.

Continue to Greenbrier Road and look for a roadside pull off where an interpretive marker notes the approximate location of Harriet Tubman’s early life on the Brodess Farm. Then head for the Bucktown Village Store, which is where a teenaged Tubman was said to have been struck by an overseer while allowing a slave to avoid capture. As a result, she was disabled for months and suffered from spells of “unexpected sleep” for the rest of her life. Guided historic and nature tours are offered here, along with bike, canoe and kayak rentals. Nearby is Bazzel Methodist Episcopal Church, which has long celebrated Tubman’s memory and serves as a place where “pilgrims” congregate.

Now head north, having completed the Cambridge loop, before following US 50...
Courthouse Square, former site of a slave market and jail where Underground Railroad conductors were held, the Tuckahoe Neck Meeting House, built in 1803 and linked to the Underground Railroad network; and the Museum of Rural Life, which includes an Underground Railroad exhibit.

Frederick Douglass, the famous orator and statesman, began his autobiography, “I was born in Tuckahoe, near Hillsborough, and about 12 miles from Easton.” From Denton, you can follow a western branch of this byway to the Tuckahoe River, and see where Douglass embarked on an amazing journey through Annapolis, Baltimore, St. Michaels and other points along the bay, finally escaping from slavery to become an abolitionist leader. Though Douglass wrote that he never approved of the “very public manner” in which the Underground Railroad was run, he applauded the determination and “noble daring” displayed by its conductors.

At this point, you have the option of linking into the Chesapeake Country Byway. Otherwise, follow MD 313 into the historic towns of Greensboro and Goldsboro. Picking up MD 287 allows you to head east into Delaware, where other Underground Railroad sites await in rural villages like Sandtown, Willow Grove, Star Hill and Camden.

OLD LINE LORE: Underground Railroad conductor Samuel Green was pastor of a church in East New Market through the 1850s until being imprisoned in 1857 for possessing a copy of the Harriet Beecher Stowe novel, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*. Stowe, in fact, based the character of Uncle Tom on Josiah Henson, a Southern Maryland man who himself became an author after escaping slavery.

Adkins Arboretum 12610 Eveland Rd Ridgely, 21660 410-634-2847 www.adkinsarboretum.org

Bazzel Methodist Episcopal Church Bestpitch Ferry Road Cambridge, 21613 www.intercom.net/npo/tubman/bazzel.htm

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge 2145 Key Wallace Dr, 21613 410-228-2677 www.fws.gov/blackwater

and MD 16 into East New Market. Veer onto MD 14 to find Mt. Zion United Methodist Church. Located near an old train station, Mt. Zion was built in 1880 on land that had been deeded five decades earlier to a group of seven African-American trustees. Among these was Samuel Green, a free black farmer and Underground Railroad conductor.

East New Market to Goldsboro – MD 16, Grove Road, MD 578, MD 16, MD 331, MD 313, MD 287

Visit a historic gristmill at Linchester, east of Preston, where employed free and enslaved African Americans worked side by side. The roots of peace-loving Quakers also run deep in this area, as you can see the home of abolitionist Jacob Leverton and then visit the site of a Quaker meeting house (now Mt. Pleasant Cemetery) that is believed to have been an Underground Railroad station. A subsequent sidetrack on this byway’s Poplar Neck Loop, which was home to Tubman’s parents, reveals stunning scenery, culminating in a view of the Choptank River from a small waterfront park. The story is told of a man named Josiah Bailey who roved past this point to meet Harriet Tubman before fleeing into Canada.

Head north on MD 16, to Potters Landing, which served as a crossing place for slaves heading north. Your journey likewise continues north, taking you through Martinak State Park. Experience the excellent camping, fishing and boating here before entering Denton, which contains several relevant sites. There’s the 158 159
Bucktown Village Store
4303 Bucktown Rd
Cambridge, 21613
410-228-7650

Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area
4220 Steele Neck Rd
Vienna, 21869
410-376-3236
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/fishingbay.html

Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center
424 Race St
Cambridge, 21613
410-228-0401

Martinak State Park
137 Deep Shore Rd
Denton, 21629
410-479-1619
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/martinak.html

Museum of Rural Life
16 N 2nd St
Denton, 21629
410-479-2055
www.carolinehistory.org

Stanley Institute
2400 Church Creek Rd
Cambridge, 21613
410-228-6657

Visitors Center at Sailwinds Park
East end of U.S. 50 Bridge, Cambridge
1-800-522-8687
200-year-old Teackle Mansion, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Directly east of town is a branch of the byway that follows MD 363 to Deal Island. A wildlife management area here contains a 2,800-acre, man made pond surrounded by some of a waterfowl’s favorite vegetation, resulting in one of the state’s finest places to view ducks and geese. Most of the residents of Deal Island make their living from nearby waters, and several operations are set up to take visitors saltwater angling in the summer or hunting in the winter.

From Princess Anne heading south, bear right on MD 413 toward the waterfront community of Crisfield. Boats bring the bounty of the lower Chesapeake home to this self-styled “Crab Capital of the World.” The J. Millard Tawes Historical Museum offers a look into the industry of seafood harvesting and processing, while the Ward Brothers Workshop pays tribute to the art of wildfowl decoy carving.

Nearby is Janes Island State Park, which has been recognized by the American Canoe Association as one of “12 recommended water trails.” Some routes described in this guide not only follow a particular theme, but closely trace a specific natural or manmade feature, such as the Historic National Road, Baltimore’s National Historic Seaport or the C&O Canal. However, no other byway besides this one, when viewed on a map, can dare to claim an actual physical resemblance to its name!

An imperfect loop links Princess Anne, Snow Hill, Salisbury and other Lower Eastern Shore towns to form the shell of the Blue Crab byway, while several branches extend out like stubby legs and curved claws toward the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean. Expect plenty of appetizing experiences as you drive through this water-laced land to enjoy limitless sightseeing, small-town warmth, and dining on sumptuous, fresh seafood. We recommend spicy steamed crabs, crab cakes, crab soup (which are harvested immediately after molting). And, as you journey through the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area, we advise you to come prepared with outdoor gear for all occasions, whether fishing, swimming, camping, canoeing, biking or even parasailing.

Princess Anne to Pocomoke City – Somerset Ave, US 13, MD 413 to Crisfield, MD 667, US 13, Market St

Named for the daughter of King George II, the hamlet of Princess Anne was established in 1733. Today, about 300 of the town’s Federal-style and Victorian structures, including the 249 miles from Princess Anne to the Atlantic Ocean

Princess Anne tothe Atlantic Ocean

249 miles from Princess Anne to the Atlantic Ocean
nationwide.” More than 30 miles of marked water trails meander through some 2,900 acres of creeks and marshes, providing excellent vantage points for spying wildlife. Campsites, backcountry camping platforms and a boat ramp are also available.

Accessible only by boat from Crisfield is Smith Island, the most isolated and unique of Maryland’s Chesapeake islands. This bay-dependent community has remained relatively unchanged since the first English settlers arrived here in the 17th century. Visit the Smith Island Center to explore the area’s history, the life of a waterman, and the influence of the bay on islanders, and then head to the Martin’s National Wildlife Refuge to learn more about wildfowl and their migratory patterns.

Catching the next boat back to the mainland, follow 413 north to MD 667 to pass through Rehobeth, site of the oldest church in the country to remain exclusively Presbyterian, and head for Pocomoke City. This deep-water river port rests along a state-owned forest famous for its stands of loblolly pines. In town, you will find a one-room school museum and the Costen House, built shortly after the Civil War and showing off exquisite Victorian Italianate architecture. It was once the home of Pocomoke’s first mayor.

Pocomoke City to Ocean City – US 113, US 113 Bus, US 50

East of Pocomoke City approaching the Atlantic Ocean, Snow Hill stands as one of the Eastern Shore’s oldest towns and was recently recognized a “Preserve America” community for so aggressively protecting its American heritage. Established in 1686, it features a former one-room schoolhouse built in 1869, as well as a museum where you can discover four centuries’ worth of rich regional history. Also displayed are the needle-art pictures of the museum’s namesake, Julia A. Purnell.

A sidetrack west on MD 12/Old Furnace Rd. and across Nassawango Creek leads to the Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum. Artisans in 19th-century attire toil at village shops. Nature trails wind through the 25-acre property, and museum exhibits tell tales of workers who once operated Maryland’s only bog-ore furnace.

Take the Public Landing Branch along MD 365 to Chincoteague Bay, where the E.A. Vaughn Kayak Trail incorporates 15 miles of water routes between two boat landings. Rent a canoe in Snow Hill or farther east on Assateague Island, which...
Museum of Wildfowl Art, you will enjoy seeing the largest collection of decorative bird carvings in the world. And down the road past a minor-league baseball stadium is one of the finest free-admission “small zoos” in the nation.

A sidetrack off of MD 349 leads to Pemberton Park, the centerpiece of which is a typical 18th-century plantation house. Surrounding it are 4.5 miles of nature trails among tidal and freshwater wetlands, meadows and forests.

There is a Sharptown Branch of the Blue Crab byway that runs from Quantico, north on MD 348, to link into the Chesapeake Country byway (page 139). Meanwhile, the road back to Princess Anne takes you past a branch to the Nanticoke River, where a wildlife management area promises exceptional bird watching and photography. Back at Cox’s Corner, drive south on MD 352 to cross the Wicomico River on the Whitehaven Ferry, which has been in continuous use since 1688.

OLD Line Lore: Ocean City grew out of its roots as a humble fishing village to become “The Ladies Resort to the Ocean” in the 1870s. It continued to develop a decade later with the coming of the railroad, and is now recognized as the East Coast’s “number one family resort.”

Assateague Island National Seashore
7206 National Seashore Ln
Berlin, 21811
410-641-1441, 410-641-3030
www.nps.gov/asis

is found down another branch of this byway. Wild ponies roam freely on the island’s two miles of ocean beaches, around secluded bayside coves, and along marsh trails. Look into camping, hiking, fishing and biking opportunities available at both a state park and a national seashore area.

Back on the main loop, Antebellum houses line tree-shaded streets in the town of Berlin, which grew up in the 19th century around a tavern, public stable and blacksmith shop. For local history and lore, visit the Calvin B. Taylor House Museum before teeing up at one of the area’s popular golf courses.

The next branch runs right into Ocean City, Maryland’s largest seashore resort. A 10-mile strand of inviting white sand runs alongside a variety of oceanside or bayside accommodations, water slides, amusement park rides and the world-famous boardwalk. You can also choose from charter sailing, jet skiing, paragliding, surfing, windsurfing, swimming and other water activities.

Ocean City to Princess Anne – MD 346, 349 & 352, White Haven Rd, MD 3621
Moving inland again, you will soon be greeted by the friendly town of Salisbury. Having established itself as the urban center of the region, Salisbury boasts an historic, pedestrian-friendly Downtown Plaza with specialty shops housed in Victorian structures. Browse among antiques and country crafts, admire artwork at local galleries, and tour the Georgian-style Poplar Hill Mansion. At the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, you will enjoy seeing the largest collection of decorative bird carvings in the world. And down the road past a minor-league baseball stadium is one of the finest free-admission “small zoos” in the nation.

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Assateague Island State Park
7307 Stephen Decatur Hwy
Berlin, 21811
410-641-2120, 1-888-432-2267
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/assateague.html

Calvin B. Taylor House Museum
208 N Main St
Berlin, 21811
410-641-1019
www.taylorhousemuseum.org

Furnace Town Living Heritage Museum
3916 Old Furnace Rd
Snow Hill, 21863
410-632-2032
www.furnacetown.com

J. Millard Tawes Historical Museum
3 North St, Somers Cove Marina
Crisfield, 21817
410-968-2501
http://skipjack.net/e_shore/visitsomerset/tawes_museum.html

James Island State Park
26280 Alfred Lawson Dr
Crisfield, 21817
410-968-1565
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/janesisland.html

Julia A. Purnell Museum
208 W Market St
Snow Hill, 21863
410-632-0515
www.purnellmuseum.com

Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum
813 S Boardwalk
Ocean City, 21843
410-289-4991
www.ocmuseum.org

Pocomoke River State Forest
3461 Worcester Hwy
Snow Hill, 21863
410-632-2566
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/pocomokeforest.html

Salisbury Zoo and Park
755 S Park Dr
Salisbury, 21802
410-548-3188
www.salisburyzoo.org

Smith Island Center
20849 Caleb Jones Rd
Smith Island, 21824
410-425-3351, 1-800-521-9189
www.smithisland.org

Teackle Mansion
11736 Mansion St
Princess Anne, 21853
410-651-2236, 1-800-521-9189
www.teacklemansion.org

Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art
909 S Shumaker Dr
Salisbury University, Salisbury, 21804
410-742-4988
www.wardmuseum.org

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909 S Shumaker Dr
Salisbury University, Salisbury, 21804
410-742-4988
www.wardmuseum.org
Destination Marketing Organizations

ALLEGANY COUNTY
Allegany County Dept. of Tourism
13 Canal Place, Rm 306
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-777-5134; 800-425-2067

ANNAPOLIS/ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
Annapolis & Anne Arundel Cty. CVB
26 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-280-0445; Balto. Line: 410-974-8188

BALTIMORE CITY
Balto. Area Convention & Visitors Association
100 Light Street, 12th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202
410-319-0977

BALTIMORE COUNTY
Baltimore County CVB
P.O. Box 5426
Lutherville, MD 21094-5426
410-296-4886; 800-570-2836 (toll free-office)

CALVERT COUNTY
Calvert Cty. Dept. of Economic Development
201 Main Street, 2nd Floor
Prince Frederick, MD 20678
410-335-4833; 800-331-9771

CAROLINE COUNTY
15 S. Third Street
Denton, MD 21629
(410) 479-2739

CARROLL COUNTY
Carroll County Visitor Center
210 E. Main Street
Westminster, MD 21157
1-800-272-1933, 410-848-1388

CECIL COUNTY
Cecil County Tourism
1 Seahawk Drive, Suite 114
North East, MD 21901
410-996-6292 OR 1-800-CECIL-95

CHARLES COUNTY
Charles County Office of Tourism
PO Box 2150
LaPlata, MD 20646
301-645-0558; 800-766-3386

DORCHESTER COUNTY
Dorchester County Tourism
2 Rose Hill Place
Cambridge, MD 21613
410-228-1000

FREDERICK COUNTY
Tourism Council of Frederick County, Inc.
19 E. Church Street
Frederick, MD 21701
301-600-2888; 800-999-3613

GARRETT COUNTY
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce
15 Visitors Center Drive
McHenry, MD 21541
301-387-4286

HARFORD COUNTY
Hartford County Office of Tourism
1250 Bulls Rock Parkway
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
410-939-6631

HOWARD COUNTY
Howard County Tourism, Inc.
PO Box 9
Deliveries: 8267 Main St
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410-313-1800; 800-888-8747

KENT COUNTY
Kent County Office of Tourism Development
400 High Street, 2nd Floor
Chesterdow, MD 21620
410-810-2830

MONTGOMERY COUNTY
CVB of Montgomery, Inc.
111 Rockville Pike, Suite 800
Rockville, MD 20850
240-777-2060; 877-789-6904

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY
Prince George’s County CVB
9200 Bad Court, Suite 101
Largo, MD 20774
301-925-8300

QUEEN ANNE’S COUNTY
Queen Anne’s County Office of Tourism
425 Piney Narrows Road
Chester, MD 21619
410-604-2100

ST. MARY’S COUNTY
St. Mary’s County Dept. of Econ. & Community Dev.
PO Box 653, 23115 Leonard Hall Dr.
Leonardtown, MD 20655
301-475-4200 x1404

Wicomico County Convention & Visitors Bureau
8480 Ocean Hwy
Delmar 21875
800-332-TOUR (8687)
www.wicomicotourism.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heritage Areas</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Heritage Area</td>
<td>Room 346 City Hall 100 N. Hollyday Street Baltimore, 21202</td>
<td>410-396-1954</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stanpangledtrails.org">www.stanpangledtrails.org</a></td>
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<td>Canal Place Heritage Area</td>
<td>13 Canal Street, Room 301 – Cumberland, 21502</td>
<td>301-724-3655</td>
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<td>Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town &amp; South County</td>
<td>Arundel Center, P.O. Box 2700 44 Calvert Street, MS 1106 Annapolis, 21401-1930 410-222-1805</td>
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<td>Heart of Chesapeake Country Heritage Area</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Points of Attractions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Mariner Arena</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adkins Arboretum</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian National Scenic Trail</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applewood Farm</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore &amp; Ohio Railroad Museum</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Basilica</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Heritage Walk</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Museum of Art</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Streetcar Museum</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore Visitor Center</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bazzel Methodist Episcopal Church</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin Barneker Historical Park &amp; Museum</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berrywine Plantations/Linganore Vineyards</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Blazes Whiskey Still</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boordy Vineyards</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bucktown Village Store</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal Flora Heritage Area</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll County Arts Council</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carroll County Farm Museum</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casselman River Bridge State Park</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catoctin Furnace</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catoctin Mountain Park</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catoctin Wildlife Preserve and Zoo</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cecil County Dragway</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesapeake &amp; Delaware Canal Museum</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesapeake Farms</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cranetville Subarctic Swamp</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cray House and Train Depot</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromwell Valley Park</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunningham Falls State Park</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus Wine Cellars</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Creek Lake State Park</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discovery Center</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eden Mill Park and Nature Center</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk Run Vineyards</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiore Winery</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing Bay Wildlife Management Area</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Frederick State Park</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambill State Park</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garrett State Forest</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geddes-Piper House</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Ridge State Forest</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greensbrier State Park</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunpowder Falls State Park</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagerstown Roundhouse Museum</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hampton National Historic Site</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harri ngton Manor State Park</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic B&amp;O Train Station</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Society of Carroll County</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homewood House Museum</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kent Museum</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaVale Toll Gate House</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Acknowledgements**

This guide book was developed and funded through a partnership between the Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development’s Office of Tourism Development and the National Scenic Byways Program.

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**Printer-insert appropriate FSC logo here
Loch Raven Reservoir: 81
Loew Vineyards: 59
Loeannong Iron Furnace and Park: 26
Lovely Lane Museum: 96
Martinsak State Park: 158
Maryland Science Center: 94
Maryland Zoo in Baltimore: 92
McDaniel College: 61
Mount Harmon Plantation: 142
Museum of Eastern Shore Life: 146
Museum of Rural Life: 159
National Lacrosse Museum and Hall of Fame: 96
National Museum of Civil War Medicine: 12
National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes: 49
National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton: 53
Navy Point: 151
New Windsor Conference Center: 59
Oregon Ridge Nature Center and Park: 72
Oxford Museum: 148
Oxford-Bellevue Ferry: 152
Peabody Institute: 92
Pickering Creek Audubon Center: 148
Plumpton Park Zoo: 68
Port Discovery: 94
Potomac State Forest: 23
Prettyboy Reservoir: 65
Richardson Maritime Museum and Boatworks: 149
Robert E. Lee Park & Lake
Roland: 76
Rock Hall Museum: 144
Rockfish State Park: 67
Rocky Gap State Park: 15
Roddy Road Covered Bridge: 49
Roger Brooke Taney & Francis Scott Key Museum: 17
Savage River State Forest: 16
Schooner Sultana 1768 and the Sultana Center: 152
Shawan Downs: 78
Sherwood Gardens: 91
South Mountain State Park: 13
Stanley Institute: 155
Swallow Falls State Park: 22
the Children’s Museum of Rose Hill Manor: 12
The Cloisters: 73
The Hippodrome Theatre at the France-Merrick Performing Arts Center: 93
Thrasher Carriage Museum: 18
Union Mills Homestead and Grist Mill: 58
Visitors Center at Sailwinds Park: 154
Walters Art Museum: 92
Washington Monument State Park: 13
Western Maryland Railroad Historical Society Museum: 59
Western Maryland Scenic Railroad & The Old Frostburg Depot: 18
Wilson’s General Store/One Room Schoolhouse: 14
Wisp Mountain Resort: 22
Wye Grist Mill and Museum: 152