





# VISIT MERCER COUNTY

**CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU** 

800-221-3206 304-325-8438 621 Commerce Street Bluefield, West Virginia 24701

#### VISITMERCERCOUNTY.COM

info@visitmercercounty.com



## #visitmercerwv



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Visit Mercer WV

COVER PHOTO TAKEN INSIDE OF PINNACLE ROCK STATE PARK

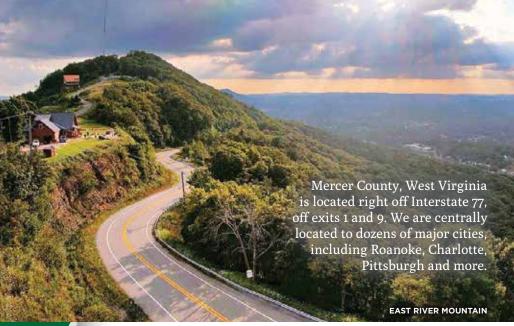
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## Four new directions to take in Mercer County



hen we go a new direction, we often find new adventures in the mountains of West Virginia. Find historic towns, outdoor adventure, detailed art, peaceful scenic overlooks, relaxing road trips and much more—all in an Appalachian spirit.

Up north, one of the last few drive-in movie theaters in the state can be found in Mercer County. Pipestem Drive-In offers weekend shows, May through October. A trip to the movies also guarantees a relaxing country drive through Athens and surrounding communities.

2 Set your sights to the east where the Grassroots District in downtown Princeton comes to life with colorful murals. Enjoy art, shopping and food in this renaissance-style district. Outside of Princeton, Lake Shawnee Abandoned Amusement Park greets both historic and paranormal visitors with its tale of wonder.

Travel south to Bluefield, where the downtown restaurants serve up delicious lunches and dinner. The city is an important part of West Virginia's coal story, as the railroad delivers tons of coal from southern West Virginia, to places all across the world.

In western Mercer County, off-road adventures meet history in the town of Bramwell.
The famous Hatfield-McCoy trails wrap around Bramwell, and in the small communities of Montcalm, Rock and Bluewell. Bramwell, a Victorian town, beckons hundreds of visitors each year with its brick streets. historic homes and classic diner-style restaurant.

With more than 15 different festivals, tours and fairs, we have an event that is perfect for every season. No matter the time of year, we have everything from leaf-peeping festivals and historic home tours during Christmas to summertime carnivals and fairs. Plan your road trip around one of our four seasons and enjoy the festivities! PLEASE CALL

### **Fvents**

#### TIMBERSPORTS COMPETITION & RAMP FEAST

APRIL • Camp Creek State Park Amphitheater Enjoy a West Virginia traditional ramp dinner and watch lumberiacks compete for cash prizes in this timbersport competition.

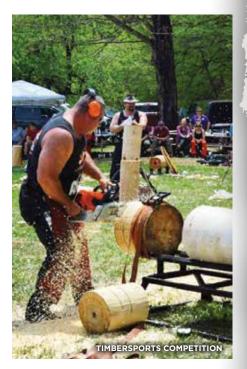
#### COOL CRUISIN' NIGHTS

MAY-OCT (Third Saturdays) • Downtown Princeton Hundreds of classic, muscle and custom cars will line Mercer Street. Bring chairs and enjoy a relaxing summer evening with music and food.

#### BRAMWELL TOUR OF HOMES

JUNE • Bramwell

Go back in time and visit the town of the Millionaires with a self-guided walking tour featuring rows of Victorian homes built during the height of the West Virginia coal industry.





### We love our spring wildflowers in the Mountain State

Mercer County sees a late spring —typically late April to late May, where you can find our state parks bursting with color. Try to find these beauties in our state and local parks.

#### Trillium

THE CVB AT

TO CONFIRM

Large-flowered Trillium: The three distinct petals on this flower are a dead giveaway that you've found a trillium. Look for these flowers in shades of white, red and pink.



Jack-in-the-Pulpit: This flower is also known as Parson-inthe-Pulpit or the Plant of Peace because it looks like a minister preaching over their congregation.



Jack-in-the-Pulpit Dutchman's Breeches: This little wildflower looks like a pair of breeches - look for clusters of them on a stem.

**Bloodroot:** This delicate flower has a small, white bloom with a yellow center. It gets its name from the red juice in the roots – Native Americans used it as a dye and a cure for ailments.

Trout Lily: Look for bright yellow blooms when searching for a trout lily. The leaves on the plant of this wildflower have similar markings to a brook trout. These are the hardest to find -but



you might spot some at Bluefield City Park!

Wild Columbine: This scarlet flower is one of the easiest (and prettiest!) to find from April through June in Mercer County.



## Fairs & Festivals

#### **CELEBRATE PRINCETON**

**JUNE •** Downtown Princeton/Mercer St. Grassroots District Downtown Princeton comes alive during this street fair filled with food, vendors, crafts, music and children's activities such as bounce houses, face painting and more. A car show will also feature classic cars from the old days.

#### **MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL**

JUNE • Bluefield City Park

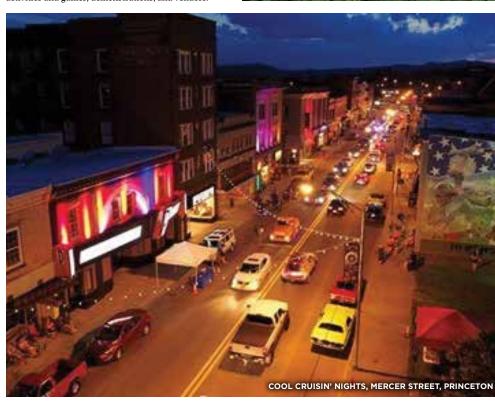
For more than 30 years, the festival has provided carnival rides, a lumberjack contest, petting zoo, traditional carnival food, vendors, entertainment, music and more.

#### LEMONADE FESTIVAL

**AUGUST** • Downtown Bluefield

When the weather gets hot, the city celebrates with the symbol of summer—lemonade. Music, food, children's activities and games, demonstrations, and vendors.







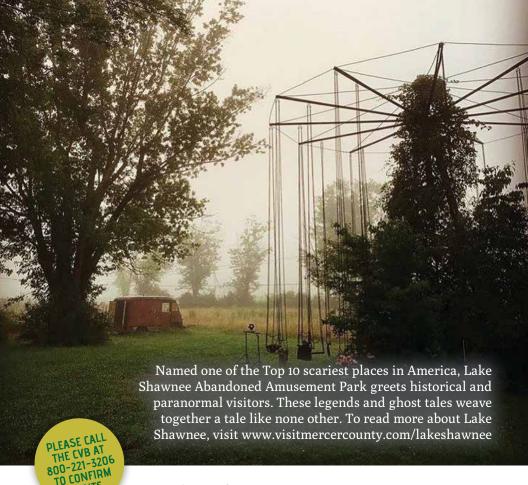




## Summertime Bucket List Mercer County Style:

Life's too short to be serious, especially when it's summer. Mercer County's most exciting summer destinations are listed here in one spot!

- 1. Pick blueberries at the state's largest u-pick blueberry farm: Blueberry Hill.
- 2. Root for the Bluefield Blue Jays or the Princeton Rays with a day at the ballpark.
- 3. Ride the famous Ridge Runner mini train in Lotito City Park in Bluefield.
- 4. Stir up some dust on the winding Hatfield-McCoy ATV trails.
- 5. Hike to the top of Pinnacle Rock for stunning mountain views.
- 6. Take in a double-feature at Pipestem Drivein theater in Athens.
- 7. Find a crisp, cool waterfall at Camp Creek State Park and Forest.
- 8. Catch a Trophy Bass at Dan Hale Reservoir Fishing—it's "West Virginia's bass kept secret."



## Festivals & Tours

#### MERCER COUNTY HERITAGE FESTIVAL

**SEPTEMBER** • Glenwood 4-H Camp, Princeton Step into the past and relive the days of the Civil War. The Heritage Festival features Civil War storytellers, re-enactors such as Gen. Robert E. Lee, craftsmen, vendors, food and more. Listen to cannons, pet farm animals and more.

#### CAMP CREEK FALL FESTIVAL

**SEPTEMBER** • Camp Creek State Park Enjoy the rich, fall colors while enjoying music and food at one of Mercer County's three state parks.

## PRINCETON AUTUMNFEST LAST SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER • Downtown

Princeton/Mercer Street Grassroots District Here you will find children's activities, vendors, crafts, food, a car show, pumpkin painting, pie contests and more.

#### OKTOBERFEST IN THE PARK

**SEPTEMBER** • Lotito City Park, Bluefield Live music, food and of course, craft and German beer.

## LAKE SHAWNEE ABANDONED AMUSEMENT PARK OCTOBER-EVERY WEEKEND

470 Matoaka Road, Rock

Lake Shawnee's past—an early Indian massacre and burial ground and an abandoned and haunted amusement park—is brought to life with two events, the Dark Carnival, a haunted house attraction and a historical tour with open photography.

#### **BRAMWELL GHOST TOURS**

**OCTOBER** • Bramwell

This charming ghost tour won't scare you too badly, but it will definitely put you in a magical state of mind. Walk through a Victorian town and witness ghosts tell the stories of their pasts. The tour is guided and will create a spooky treat.



### Four Places to Enjoy Fall

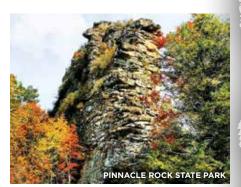
Bundle up, and visit these popular places where you can view autumn foliage!

Camp Creek State Park is a secluded park with many hiking trails. Lush forests surround two waterfalls on Camp Creek, making it a beautiful location for fall color. Horseback riding is a unique way to view the leaves and Camp Creek is a horse-friendly state park!

Take Route 52 from Princeton to Bramwell—along the way, you'll find Pinnacle Rock State Park. Hike to the top of this unique rock formation for some of the best mountain views in Mercer County. Afterwards, make your way to Bramwell for small town charm set against a backdrop of beautiful foliage.

Drive to the top of East River Mountain for an incredible mountain top view. The large observation deck at the top is the perfect overlook to see the city of Bluefield and the surrounding mountains.

Want to add a little adventure to your leaf peeping excursion? Hit the Hatfield-McCoy ATV Trails for some off-road fun! The Pocahontas trailhead is located right outside of the ATV-friendly town of Bramwell.



### Warm Cozy Comfort Food

When the weather gets nippy, there is nothing like warm cozy comfort food. Here are our favorite spots for coffee, soup and more.

Appalachian
Coffee House
Straight black or
cream and sugar?
Either way, we
all appreciate the
warmth and caffeine
during fall in West
Virginia. Fall in love
with the seasonal



flavors of pumpkin, maple and gingerbread. This shop is located in the Grassroots District in Downtown Princeton.

The Blue Spoon
Cozy up with warm
cups of soup and pair
it with a homemade
sandwich. This lunch
spot in Bluefield is
a bright spot on a
blustery day. With
a rotating dessert
menu, end your meal

with a sweet treat.



Bramwell
Corner Shop
This shop, located in
Historic Bramwell,
is the best place to
warm up after a day
on the ATV trails.
Traditional burgers
and fries are the
top fare, but hidden



gems include potato soup, mac and cheese on a burger and much more!

Dolly's Diner Some days you just need a stick-toyour ribs southern breakfast. Near exit 9 in Princeton, this retro diner dishes up all your southern favorites like grits, gravy and biscuits,



and eggs, all cooked up your favorite way.

#### **Fvents**

## HOLIDAY OF LIGHTS FESTIVAL THANKSGIVING DAY NIGHT-DECEMBER 31 •

Bluefield City Park, Bluefield

Drive through 40-plus acres of Christmas lights and celebrate the season underneath a candy cane canopy of lights. Various scenes, all created in Christmas lights, are spread throughout the city park. Weekend events include visits from Santa, walking tours and local choirs.

## BRAMWELL CHRISTMAS TOUR OF HOMES SECOND SATURDAY IN DEC • Bramwell

Experience Christmas in a small Victorian town with this special holiday tour. This tour of homes is filled with holiday spirit. All the mansions are decorated for the season.



#### DOWNTOWN COUNTDOWN

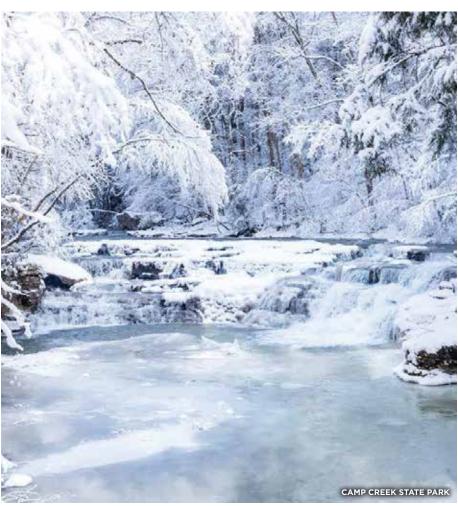
**NEW YEAR'S EVE •** Downtown Princeton/Mercer Street Grassroots District

Celebrate the New Year on Mercer Street with music and bands on multiple stages, food, vendors and fireworks. An artistically-designed ball drops at midnight.

#### WINTER WARMER

FEBRUARY • Bluefield Arts Center

Warm up with Bluefield's coziest festival. Enjoy craft beer, fine food, music and friends. The Winter Warmer is Bluefield's answer to the chilly weather.











## Cabins, Comfort Food and a Dash of Holiday Cheer

Enjoy quality time in Mercer County this season.

#### **Friday**

Stay the weekend in one of **Buffalo Trail's cabins**, cottages or tree houses and appreciate the peaceful wooded environment. Plus: it is conveniently located within 3.5 miles from the **Pocahontas Trailhead of the Hatfield-McCoy Trails**— if you want to take an ATV ride — and there is a full-service restaurant and bar (open Thursday—Saturday evening) on-site serving pizzas, steaks, burgers, wings and other classic American dishes.

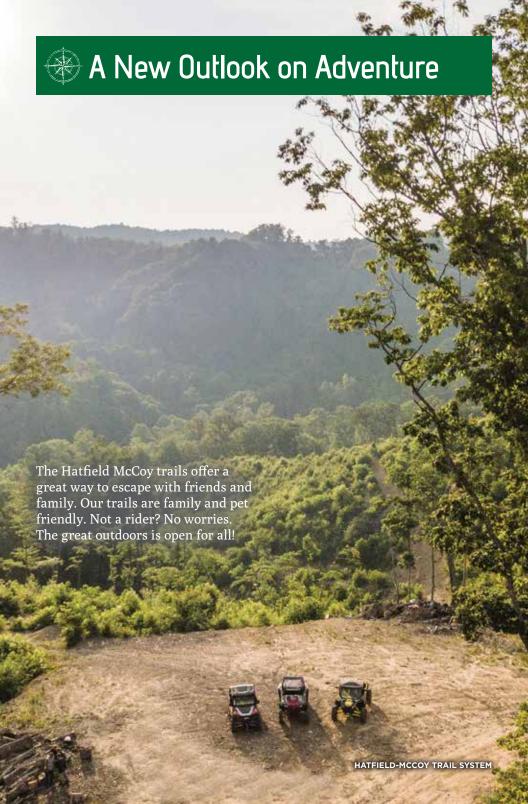
#### Saturday

In the morning, head down Rt. 52 to reach Bluewell, where you can enjoy a West Virginia-style biscuit at **Tudor's Biscuit World**. Then, drive into Bramwell for a self-guided walk through the **Town of Millionaires**. Maps are available in town at both the **Coal Heritage Trail Interpretation Center** and **The Corner Shop** (where you can also order a craveworthy milkshake).

Get some more fresh air with a hike through Pinnacle Rock State Park. If you hike to the top of the rock formation, you'll be rewarded with one of the best views in Mercer County — particularly in the fall. And, if you'd like to explore further, there are more than 10 miles of other trails to tackle.

Once you've worked up an appetite again, sit down for a family meal at **Patty Joe's Restaurant** in Bluefield. The house-made soups will warm you up, and if you're looking for a taste of the holidays, try the hot turkey dinner with gravy, homemade stuffing and two sides. The crab cakes, baked seafood specials and country fried chicken also come highly recommended.

End the day with an evening visit to **Lotito City Park** for the spectacular **Holiday of Lights** (running Thursday–Sunday, Thanksgiving–New Year's Eve).



ind a new direction for family time—whether it's on the muddy ATV trail, or inside one of our three parks. The hardest part is deciding what path to take in Almost Heaven. We are home to one of the largest ATV systems on the East Coast, the Hatfield-McCoy ATV Trail. With luxury cabins and twists and turns through the woods, our trail system is made for days of riding and relaxing nights around the campfire. The Pocahontas Trail connects to three other trails throughout our area, each with accommodating communities with fuel, history and good food. Don't have a ride? We have rentals and trail guides to get you on the trails and ready to explore.

For the quiet side of nature, hike to the top of **Pinnacle Rock State Park** for the best mountain view or get deep into the Bluestone Gorge at **Pipestem Resort State Park** by zipline for speed or a classic scenic aerial tramway. (Secret: There is even a gourmet restaurant hidden in the gorge!)

And what's a family retreat without Mother Nature? Bring the camping gear to **Camp Creek State Park** and camp under the stars. Our waterfalls are cool and refreshing in the summer, and an excellent place to let kids fish and play in the creek. If you like glamping, **Brush Creek Fall RV Resort** has the perfect spot, as well as multiple activities for the family.

Take the time to disconnect and explore with family. Whether it's quiet time or adrenaline pumping adventure, we have all the activities to help plan your trip!

#### 304 Speedway

5127 Eads Mill Road, Princeton 304-431-1950 • brushcreekfalls.com/304-speedway This high-speed go-kart dirt track has monthly cash races.

#### Baker's Hill Inn: E-Bike Rentals

1900 Bland Road, Bluefield

304-308-2732
bakershillinn.com
Ditch the car and take in the sights of Historic
Bluefield on an electric bicycle. These bikes assist you
on the hills and make riding in the mountains a breeze.
Rentals are \$20/day and you can call to reserve.

#### Blueberry Hill

Flat Top, WV 304-787-3930 • blueberryhillwv.com WV's largest u-pick blueberry farm. This family owned farm has 15 acres of Northern Highbush berry bushes consisting of over 100 well manicured, grass lined plant rows. They also have plenty of access roads, parking, rest rooms, shaded rest/picnic area, and some of the freshest mountain air you can imagine.

#### Bluefield Blue Jays at Bowen Field Stadium Drive, Bluefield

Tickets and schedule: 304-324-1326 • bluefieldjays.com
The historic Blue Jays of Bluefield play June through
August. The first professional team in the area began
playing in the 1930s. Since then, numerous teams

#### **Bluefield Elks Golf Course**

have called Bluefield home.

1501 Whitethorn Street, Bluefield 304-327-6511 Nine-hole golf course, one of the oldest courses in Mercer County.

#### **Brush Creek Falls RV Resort**

5127 Eads Mill Road, Princeton
304-431-1950 • brushcreekfalls.com
Open to the general public, visitors can play a round
of miniature golf, find treasures in the gem mine, or
visit the gift shop at this resort during the season.
COMING SOON: Fish pond in Spring 2020

#### Brush Creek State Park and Falls

Camp Creek Speedway Road, Athens 304-637-0160

The preserve is open-year round, dawn to dusk, with picnic trails. The preserve is located near Brush Creek Falls, a popular local spot.

#### Camp Creek State Park and Forest

1-77 exit 20 to US 19 S, Camp Creek
833-WV-PARKS • campcreekstatepark.com
Enjoy tent, trailer, horse and rider campsites, fishing,
picnicking, playgrounds and other amenities. There
are also 35-plus miles of trails open to equestrians,
hikers and mountain bikers.

#### **Dan Hale Reservoir Fishing**

Dan Hale Reservoir Road, Princeton 304-921-7158

"West Virginia's bass kept secret" sits on 76 acres, conveniently located right off of State Route 20 between Bluewell and Glenwood. This is a great outdoor experience for the entire family, with all of the amenities including: trophy bass, catfish, trout, crappie, and bluegill fishing, and boat rentals.

#### **Devil's Den Motorcycle Route**

800-592-2217 • trailsheaven.com

Heaven's Gate Motorcycle Trail is a part of the Devil's Den Motorcycle Route in southern West Virginia. Heaven's Gate is 164 miles, starting in Bluefield and ending near Huntington, West Virginia, along Route 52. Heaven's Gate leads riders through coal country and several historical West Virginia towns, deep in the mountains. The twists and turns and amazing scenery make it the perfect West Virginia road trip.

#### Lotito City Park (Bluefield)

1780 Stadium Drive, Bluefield

304-327-2448 • cityofbluefield.com

Take advantage of a facility with four pavilions,

symmasium youth center picnic tables playgrounds

gymnasium, youth center, picnic tables, playgrounds, athletic fields, tennis courts, hiking and biking trails. Perfect for family outings, class reunions and more.

#### **Crazy Mountain Cycles**

4156 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 336-467-3713

Choose between a 1-day Polaris RZR Adventure tour or a 2-day Polaris RZR Adventure Tour on the Hatfield-McCoy Trail.

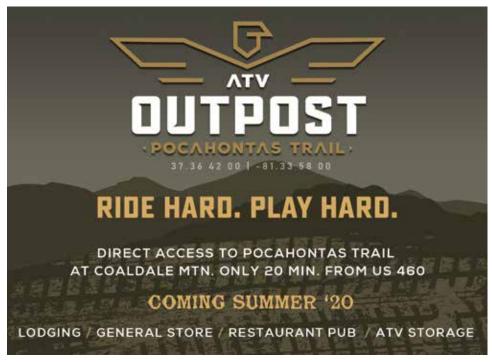
#### **East River Mountain Overlook**

Rt. 598, off Rt. 460, Bluefield 304-327-2448 • cityofbluefield.com Picnic shelters and observation deck with breathtaking views of Mercer County.

#### Glenwood Recreational Park and 4-H Camp

1823 Glenwood Park Road, Princeton 304-425-1681

This 55-acre lake is the centerpiece of this park. You can enjoy picnic shelters, playgrounds, an 18-hole miniature golf course, tennis courts, disc golf, biking trails, and paddle boat rentals. A gazebo on site near the lake is also the perfect place for weddings or photo shoots.



## Pets of Instagram

We've got a great playground for man's best friend. From playing in the creeks and waterfalls of Camp Creek State Park, to riding shotgun on the ATV trails, its a doggie paradise. After the outdoors, relax on the patio of a few of our favorite dog-friendly restaurants, like Sophisticated Hound in Princeton.



Tallie, a Yorkie Blue Heeler

Owner: Ashley

Hometown: Suffield, Ohio

Tallie and her family love the Hatfield-McCoy ATV Trails. They have ridden the trails 31 times! Tallie loves to feel the wind blowing through her hair when she is riding on the trail.



Lucy, a Golden Retriever

Owner: Geralann Hometown: Bluefield, Va

Lucy is a huge fan of the great outdoors. She loves her tennis ball and visiting places like Buffalo

Trails and Pinnacle Rock State Park.



Vulkan, a Husky Owner: Jennifer

Hometown: North Carolina

Vulkan, and her doggie sister Athena (not pictured) enjoy splashing in the waterfalls and creeks at Camp Creek State Park. Their owner says they love adventure!



Dudley, a German-Wirehaired Pointer

Owner: Kim

Hometown: Charleston, W.Va.

Dudley likes to go everywhere! He is a great companion for hiking or exploring beautiful places

like Brush Creek Falls.

## Gettin' Hitched?



#### Little Acre Farm

3622 Old Athens Road Princeton
304-920-9912 • littleacrefarmwedding.com
Little Acre Farm is an all -inclusive
Appalachia rustic venue with outdoor
ceremony space next to a pond. The barn,
just in case of rain, can hold up to 200
guests and a wedding party of 28. Little
Acres Farm features four acres of instaworthy wedding shots for you and your
guests! Located between Princeton and
Athens, this venue is close to restaurants
and lodging properties.

#### The Barn on Unity Farm

535 Unity Barn Road Princeton
304-921-2222 • thebarnonunityfarm.com
A stained glass window, a rustic porch
and an eye-catching chandelier adds just
enough glam to a rustic barn made out
of wood and metal on the outskirts of
Princeton. The Barn on Unity Farm is an allinclusive wedding venue in Mercer County.
On 100 lush acres, the property has large
open fields, Brush Creek, (a tributary of the
Bluestone River), Little Laurel Creek, photoworthy trees and spectacular sunsets.









540-235-2777 KairosResort.com

#### Hatfield-McCoy ATV Trail

11110 Coal Heritage Road, Bramwell 800-592-2217 • trailsheaven.com The Pocahontas Trail in Bramwell, Mercer County, is part of a managed ATV trail system with 500-plus miles of trails.

#### Pinnacle Rock State Park

3407 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 304-425-9481 • pinnaclerockstatepark.com Day-use park with 10-miles of hiking trails, unique rock formations, picnic areas and fishing at Jimmy Lewis Lake.

#### **Pipestem Adventures Splash Pad** and Adventure Lake

3405 Pipestem Drive, Pipestem 833-WV-PARKS • wvstateparks.com Located directly across from McKeever Lodge, the splash park offers 15 different water features for little ones. Catch a ride down to Adventure Lake for the big kids and adults, too. The lake features 12 inflatables and a sandy beach with plenty of lounge chairs.

#### **Pipestem Resort**

3405 Pipestem Drive, Pipestem 833-WV-PARKS • pipestemresort.com Full-service lodge, cottages and campgrounds with nature center, horseback riding, archery, tennis, golf, paddle boats, aerial tramway and fine dining. There are miles of hiking and mountain bike trails with scenic overlooks.

#### **Princeton City Park**

201 Morrison Drive, Princeton 304-487-5040 • cityofprinceton.org Discover exercise trails, picnic facilities, gymnasium, disc golf and playgrounds.

#### **Princeton Elks Country Club**

270 Princeton Elks Street, Princeton 304-425-3273 Nine-hole public golf course caters to golfers of all levels. A pro shop is also on-site.

#### Princeton Indoor Golf Center

110 Gott Road, Princeton  $681\text{-}282\text{-}5507 \bullet pctindoorgolf.com$ Enjoy golf rain or shine with the latest in golfing technology: foresight GS2 monitoring and feedback system. Play a game, compete online or practice in "driving range" mode.

#### **Princeton Rays at Hunnicutt Field**

205 Old Bluefield Road, Princeton Tickets and schedules: 304-487-2000 • princetonrays.net The second oldest baseball team in the county was formed with the development of a large baseball fan base in the Princeton community. You can watch Princeton and Bluefield play baseball for the coveted Mercer Cup.

#### **Princeton Speedway**

333 Racetrack Road, Princeton 304-425-RACE • princetonspeedway.net Fast-track late-model and modified street races.

#### Reel Catch

128 Brick Street, Princeton 304-487-1099 • reelcatchllc.com Families and outdoor enthusiasts will enjoy this catch and release fishing lake. Tournaments are held on the weekends, with cash prizes. Seasonal hours.

#### Stumpkin Pumpkins

1007 Old Oakvale Road, Princeton 304-961-0347 Pick-your-own pumpkin farm is open every October.

100 Old Flat Top Mountain Road, Ghent

Enjoy hayrides and shop small gifts inside the quaint cabin.

#### Winterplace Ski Resort

800-607-SNOW • winterplace.com Twenty-seven trails, snowboard park, 10 lanes of snow tubing, 100 percent snow making capability, restaurants and lounge. Open December-March, seven days a week.





tay a while! We've got hotels, cabins, farmhouse B&Bs, all with Southern hospitality.

For a really quaint and unique rest, climb up to a rustic tree house. When you scramble back down, enjoy a good brew and meet the buffalo (yes, the real animal.)

You can even roll right on up to the ATV lodges after a long day along the Hatfield-McCov Trails.

Relaxation? Curl up in a woodland cabin away from the world, bring your RV and settle for the week or let our local B&B owners take care of va in the mornin' with a homemade, hearty meal.

Rustic? Stay under the clear, sparkling stars at a scenic campsite.

## Campgrounds

Appalachian RV Resort and Campground 1188 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 304-324-0020		appalachianrvresortwv.com
Brushcreek Falls RV Resort 5127 Eads Mill Rd., Princeton 304-431-1950	<b>₽</b> \$≈ <b>≥</b> \$	brushcreekfalls.com
Coal Heritage Camping Rt. 52 Bluewell 304-589-5277		coalheritagecamping.com
Hilltop Escape Campground 789 Windmill Hilltop road Rock 704-798-4323		hilltopescapewv.com
The Yurts and RV Park at Kairos Resort in the two Virginias Shumate Falls Road, Glen Lyn, VA 540-235-2777	<b>₽</b> \$ <b>\$</b> \$	kairosresort.com



Accommodates Wi-Fi

Free Breakfast

Tent Camping

Pool

Dining V

Pet Friendly

Handicap Accessible

Fitness Center

Activities

Direct Access



Baker's Hill Inn 1900 Bland Road, Bluefield 304-308-2732	<b>♦™*</b>	bakershillinn.com
<b>Bluefield Inn</b> 2109 Jefferson Street, Bluefield 304-323-2200	≈ <b>≞</b> ≱Ġ	bluefieldinn.com
Hewitt House B&B S. River and Main Street, Bramwell 304-248-8385	<b>**</b>	hewitthousebedandbreakfast.com hewitthousebedandbreakfast@gmail.com
<b>Trailhead Inn</b> 269 Prosperity School Rd., Rock 304-566-8044	<b>∻≈</b>	trailheadinn.net

Black Dog Ranch ATV Resort 1664 Prosperity School Road, Rock 304-920-7506	ò-iò	facebook.com/ WestVirginiaBlackDogRanch/
Black Oak ATV Resort 7001 Black Oak Road, Rock 304-920-2073	<b>•</b>	blackoakatv.com
Bramwell ATV Resort 328 Simmons Avenue, Bramwell 304-487-8888 or 757-831-2106	<b>∻</b>	bramwellatvresort.com
Buffalo Trail Cabins 190 Buffalo Trail, Rt. 71, Bluewell 855-349-9871 or 304-324-3204	₽₽≈ ₽₽≈	buffalotrailcabins.com reservations@buffalotrailcabins.com
Busted ATV Resort 7661 Highway 52 Coal Heritage Road, Bramwell 386-527-8881 or 386-299-1121	<b>≈</b>	bustedatvresort.com
Crazy Mountain Cycles 4156 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 336-467-3713	ATV parking, ATV locked storage	crazymountaincycles.com
Crane Creek Cabins 217 Crane Creek Road, Montcalm 336-835-1982	<b>≈ *</b>	cranecreekcabins.com
Four Wheeler Heaven 11197 Coal Heritage Road, Bramwell 855-587-2457	<b>≟.Ġ•Ġ</b>	fourwheelerheaven.com
Gold and Blue Cabin Rentals 3995 Heritage Road, Bluefield 304320-7514	<b>्र 🌋</b>	goldandbluecabins.com
Hillbilly Hideaway 1321 Simmons River Road, Bluefield 304-809-4204 or 304-248-7308	<b>*</b> **	hillbillyhideawayatvresort.com
Mud Pit ATV Resort 5038 Simmons River Road, Montcalm 304-589-1208	#X \$\disp\	mudpitatvresort.com
Pocahontas ATV Resort 1749 Bramwell – Pocahontas Avenue, Bramwell 304-449-4683	₽₽ ₽₽ ₽₽	pocahontasatvresort.net



ichelle and Steve Cook took Bramwell's Historic Home Tour featuring the famous Victorian Millionaire's Row in 2014 and immediately fell in love. Not with each other—that had already happened years ago—but with the Myers House, located on historic brick Main Street. Michelle knew right then that she was ready to move.

"It was love at first sight during a Christmas tour of Bramwell," according to Michelle. "We knew we wanted to restore the house back to what it was. I would have moved that night! Something magical took over, and we have loved it ever since."

Thus began a labor of love to restore 212 Main Street to its original glory. The house had originally been a guest house in the early 1900's that hosted people mainly in the banking industry visiting Bramwell. The Pocahontas coalfields were rich with coal in those days and several coal barons built lavish mansions in Bramwell. The town was a hub of wealth, with more millionaires per capita than anywhere in the country.

Following their careful restoration and update, Michelle and Steve opened their doors in 2017 as The Guest House of Bramwell: Since 1878. Today, the house caters to families, groups, and ATV enthusiasts.

"The majority of our guests are here to enjoy the Hatfield-McCoy Trails, but we also get folks coming for family reunions or just to relax and enjoy the scenic mountain beauty," says Michelle. "People fall in love with the story of the house and come back again and again."

The four-bedroom, 3,000-square-foot home is perfect for groups of up to 15, and Steve and Michelle take care of every detail—from parking your equipment to preparing special meals just for your group. Be sure to request the cinnamon rolls in the morning. These sweet delicacies alone are worth the trip!

"We knew we wanted to restore the house back to what it was. I would have moved that night!" Michelle said.

Michelle was a nurse for 30 years and knows how to make people feel comfortable. However, she will tell you Steve is the people person of their team. "He loves to tell the story and is fantastic with people. He loves for them to be here." The Cooks recently purchased an additional piece of property to handle parking overflow to accommodate guests and their equipment.

The Guest House of Bramwell is only minutes from the Hatfield-McCoy trailhead and Pinnacle Rock State Park and just half a block from the Corner Shop. Step back in time and fall in love with the rich history of Bramwell with Steve and Michelle.

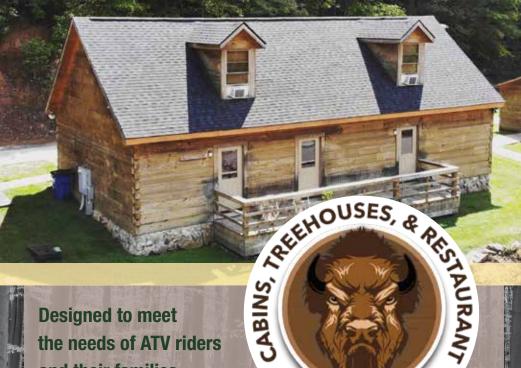
Historic walking tours of Bramwell take place in June and December. Tickets can be purchased at the Bramwell Presbyterian Church. Walking tour brochures are available through the Mercer County CVB.



## It's where the adventure begins.

Full-service facility for the avid ATV/UTV rider-with the area's only convenience store created and designed around the ATV community.





the needs of ATV riders and their families.





Cabins and RV Sites located just minutes from the Hatfield-McCoy Trails.



Restaurant and full bar located on site.

**Book Online or Call Us Today!** 1-855-349-9871

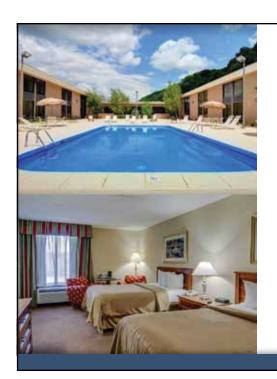
BUFFALOTRAILCABINS.COM

## Hotels & Motels

Country Inn and Suites 111 Halls Ridge Road, Princeton 304-425-2200 or 800-596-2375	≈ <b>≟≚Ġ</b> ʹ\$	radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/ country-inn-princeton-wv
Days Inn 347 Meadowfield Lane, Princeton 304-425-8100	≉ <b>ઁ≝ં</b>	wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn/ princeton-west-virginia/days-inn- princeton-wv/overview
Econo Lodge 3400 East Cumberland Road, Bluefield 304-327-8171 or 800-55-ECONO	<b>૽ૐૐઙ૽</b>	choicehotels.com/west-virginia/ bluefield/econo-lodge-hotels/
Economy Inn 3206 E. Cumberland Road, Bluefield 304-325-9111	Ŕ	
Fairfield Inn 107 Halls Ridge Road, Princeton 304-913-5101	≈ <b>≟</b> ≞Ġ⁵	marriott.com
Guesthouse of Bramwell Since 1878 • 212 Main Street, Bramwell 304-887-5391	full kitchen for food prep	facebook.com/212MainSt
Hampton Inn 277 Meadowfield Lane, Princeton 304-431-2580 or 800-HAMPTON	≈ <b>≟</b> ≞Ġ <b>⅍</b>	hilton.com
Holiday Inn Express 805 Oakvale Road, Princeton 304-425-8156 or 866-425-1540	≈ <b>≟≞</b> ≵Ġ	hiexpress.com
Microtel 250 Ambrose Lane, Princeton 304-487-3885	≈ <b>≟</b> ≞Ġ⁵	wyndhamhotels.com/microtel/ princeton-west-virginia/microtel-inn- and-suites-princeton/overview
Quality Hotel & Conference Center 3350 Big Laurel Hwy, Bluefield 304-325-6170	<b>≟≌≊Ġ</b>	choicehotels.com
Quality Inn 136 Ambrose Lane, Princeton 304-487-6101	≈ <b>≞</b> ፚኇ፞፞፞፞ጜ	choicehotels.com/west-virginia/ princeton/quality-inn-hotels
Sleep Inn & Suites 1015 Oakvale Road, Princeton 304-431-2800 or 888-259-8543	Ģ≞‱¥Ġ Ŋ	choicehotels.com/sleep-inn
The Budget Inn 409 Thorn Street, Princeton 304-425-3585	*	
<b>Turnpike Motel</b> 815 Oakvale Road, Princeton 304-425-2268	<b>≈\$</b> \$	turnpikemotelprincetonwv.com

## State Park

Camp Creek State Park 2390 Camp Creek Road, Camp Creek 304-425-9481		campcreekstatepark.com
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"Closest hotel to I-77 in Bluefield."

## Quality Hotel & Conference Center

3350 Big Laurel Highway Bluefield, WV

304-325-6170

Free Hot Breakfast

FREE high-speed Wi-Fi • Pet-Friendly

Over 6000 sq feet of meeting space

24-hour Fitness Center

Outdoor Pool • ATM



"Our modern rooms and exceptional service help make every stay brilliantly simple. Convenient to great restaurants."

## Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham

250 Ambrose Lane Princeton, West Virginia

304-487-3885

100% Non-Smoking • Free Breakfast, Indoor Pool & Spa • Pet-Friendly Free high-speed Wi-Fi • Guest Laundry Meeting Room



"The newest hotel in Princeton is equipped with flexible workspaces, Free Wi-Fi, and a calming design to help you breeze through your next trip."

## Fairfield Inn & Suites

107 Halls Ridge Road Princeton, WV 304-913-5101

30<del>4</del>-313-3101

100% Non-Smoking • Free breakfast 504sq. ft. meeting space Indoor Pool • Fitness Center



"A great place to stay for a family gathering, business event or just a leisure stay."

## Country Inn & Suites

111 Halls Ridge Road Princeton, WV

304-425-2200

100% Non-Smoking • Free breakfast
FREE high-speed Wi-Fi
650 sq. ft. meeting space
Microwave & Refrigerator
Indoor Pool • Fitness Center

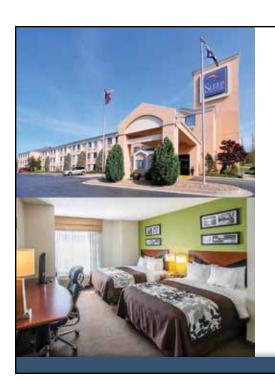


"Get more for your hard-earned money in this newly renovated hotel near Concord University."

## Quality Inn

136 Ambrose Lane Princeton, WV 304-487-6101

Pet-Friendly • Free breakfast FREE high-speed Wi-Fi



"A simply stylish sanctuary that's designed for a happy night's sleep."

## Sleep Inn & Suites

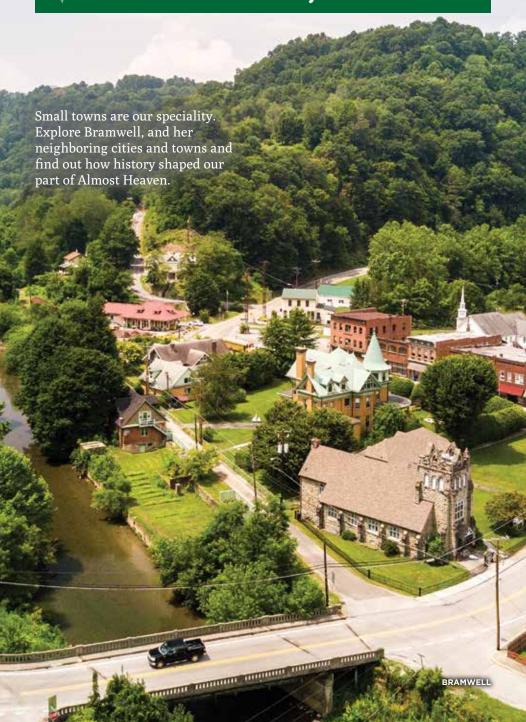
1015 Oakvale Road Princeton, WV

304-431-2800

Pet-Friendly • Free breakfast FREE high-speed Wi-Fi Business Center Indoor Pool • Fitness Center



## Trace Our History's Tracks



ountain towns are full of rich history. In our piece of Almost Heaven, our history goes way down, deep into the rich earth full of glittering black coal and fast trains. You will find rail and coal heritage, which brought wealth and prosperity to our region. So much, that one of our tiny towns had more millionaires per capita than anywhere in the nation! (And the historic homes still line the brick streets!)

With too many accolades to list, our history is impressive. From having a historic black college to Civil War battles, our museums and storytellers weave together the pieces of small town Appalachia throughout the years. Learn about our first settlers, how the railroad came to town and so much more!

#### 9/11 Memorial

Chicory Square, Bluefield In honor of those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The eagle memorial was built in 2014.

#### **Bluefield State College Archives**

at the William B. Robertson Library 219 Rock Street, Bluefield 304-327-4053

Originally known as the Bluefield Colored Institute, the college was founded in 1895. BSC is a historical black college. The archives were established in 1992 and collect, care for, interpret, promote and make historical resources available. Visitation to the archives are available by appointment only.

#### Clay Memorial Park

Junction of Rt.10 and Rt.19, Kegley 304-425-0176

Go back to the early days and visit the first area settlement dating back to 1775. Mitchell and Phoebe Belcher Clay settled in Mercer County near Princeton on the Bluestone River. The family was later attacked by Shawnee Indians. A memorial is dedicated to the children who died in the attack.

#### **Coal Heritage Trail Interpretive Center**

100 Station Square, Bramwell 866-858-8959 • coalheritage.org
This museum houses relics and exhibits of West Virginia's coal history. You will find photos of former Bramwell coal barons, their wives, memorabilia of the millionaire days and much more. Call for hours.

#### The Davidson Cabin

1780 Stadium Drive, Bluefield 304-327-2448

Come and enjoy seeing this iconic piece of history that was built by one of the first settlers of Bluefield, Joseph Davidson, in the early 1800s. The cabin was moved to its current location, Bluefield City Park, in 1939. Sunday-Saturday 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

#### **Eastern Regional Coal Archives**

600 Commerce Street, Bluefield 304-325-3943

Dig deeper into the history of Bluefield and surrounding areas by visiting the archives. Find artifacts, blueprints, films, ledgers, maps, miner's tools, newspapers, photographs, mine scrip, railroad memorabilia and more. It is the perfect place for researchers and history buffs. Hours: Open by appointment.

#### Lake Shawnee Abandoned Amusement Park

470 Matoaka Road, Rock

304-921-1580

Experience one of the most terrifying places in the U.S. Lake Shawnee's past—an early Indian massacre and burial ground and an abandoned and haunted amusement park—is brought to life with two events, the Dark Carnival, a haunted house attraction and a historical tour with open photography.

#### The McNutt House

1522 North Walker Street, Princeton 304-487-1502

The house, which is home to the Princeton location of The Chamber of Commerce of the Two Virginias, is the last remaining structure in Princeton from the Civil War. During wartime, the home, owned by a local doctor, became a hospital. The house is the first site along the West Virginia Civil War Trail. Hours: Open by appointment. 304-487-1502; 304-327-7184 or 304-425-2368





#### Mercer County Agricultural Museum

95 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-3682

Here you will find a collection of farming artifacts, antique tools and more. The life of a farmer and his family can be experienced in this museum.

Hours: Open by appointment

#### **Princeton Railroad Museum**

99 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-487-5060 • princetonrailroadmuseum.com Over 100 railroad lanterns, exhibits of railroad artifacts, artworks, books, photographs, caboose, and corporate railroad material from the Virginian and Norfolk-Southern Railroads. Call for time and hours. Private tours/parties upon request.

#### Those Who Served War Museum

1500 W. Main Street, Princeton
304-487-3670 • thosewhoserved.shutterfly.com
Created by donations from local families and veterans, the war museum pays tribute to veterans from Mercer
County and across southern West Virginia. Three floors of artifacts, the Walk of Honor, memorabilia and memorials range from the Civil War to present day wars and conflicts.

#### Vietnam Memorial Tourism Information Center 186 Greasy Ridge Road, Princeton

304-487-0082

A beautiful memorial to honor those who served during the Vietnam War. The center opened in 1992 and the Vietnam Memorial was constructed in 1995 and dedicated in 1996.

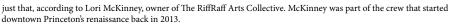


## There's a New Mural in Town

ith more than 30 murals framing the streets of the Mercer Street Grassroots District, Princeton is practically an outdoor arts studio. The open-air gallery added another splash of color this summer thanks to West Virginia-based artist Promise Sloan, Sloan's creativity landed on a brick wall across from Appalachian Coffee House near The RiffRaff Arts Collective. Now, the once unassuming brick facade flashes two butterfly murals - one large, one more kid-sized — allowing passersby of all ages to really become part of the scene and offer an interesting moment for those casually people-watching. Each mural is composed of vibrant hues of blue, purple and yellow, causing them to practically jump off the wall. On the larger painting, the words "I still get these silly butterflies," written across the wingspan draws people in for a closer look.

"I wanted it to be bright, bold and to stand out because I believe we all shine in different ways and at different times," Sloan said of the mural. "I wanted to convey a splash of happiness and a splash of excitement — something that can turn your day around."

And Sloan's work has done



"It's brightened the block and brought a ton of smiles," McKinney said. "People love taking their picture with it, and when they see it online, it's like an adventure searching for it! They get excited to discover the location, jump out of the car and snag a shot."

Sloan has lived and worked in West Virginia her whole life. She recently became immersed in the Mercer County arts community by teaching painting classes, encouraging other local artists, and working in two downtown businesses, Diamonds & Gold Look and The Bronze Look, to create The Art Cellar, a gathering spot for artists of all types.

"I go out of town to visit the larger cities, but the mountains always call me home," Sloan said. "It's the



"I wanted it to be bright, bold and to stand out because I believe we all shine in different ways and at different times," Sloan said.

simple life that I seek, and doors are always open. I get my peace of mind here, which allows me to focus on my creativity."

Come take a tour of this quaint city's bustling arts scene and share your photos on social media with

#visitmercerwv and #explore304! You never know when something new will pop up, and Princetonians are pleased to note that visiting hours are 24/7.





## **Our Picks for Best Local Fare**

From late night gatherings to family dinners, we got a restaurant for every craving or special occasion. Catch up with friends with craft beer, or celebrate over italian cuisine and dessert.











ur local flavor? It's a little bit of Appalachian sensibility with down-home fresh taste.

The small town establishments serve up everything from coffee and sandwiches to beer and barbecue. Historic spots like the Bramwell Soda Fountain and Corner Shop and Lynn's Drive-In have been cooking up comfort classics for ages.

Our culinary tour can wind you through some of the best dining destinations

We also have all the convenience of your familiar favorites.

#### Angelo's Pizza

#### PIZZA

1211 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-487-8924 • angelospizzaonline.com

#### **Appalachian Coffee House**

#### COFFEE & RESTAURANT

860 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-800-1846

#### Bellacino's Pizza and Grinders

#### PIZZA/SANDWICHES

1334 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-913-4923 • bellacinos.com

#### Berkshire's

#### SEASONAL TREATS

509 Rogers Street, Princeton 304-487-8881

#### **Bluestone Dining Room**

#### FAMILY STYLE

Pipestem Resort State Park, Pipestem 304-466-1800, ext 368 pipestemresort.com/amenities.html

#### The Blue Spoon Cafe AMERICAN

517 Commerce Street, Bluefield 304-800-5160 • bluespooncafe.net

#### **Bramwell Outpost and Grill**

#### AMERICAN

408 Simmons Avenue, Bramwell 681-284-2052 • bramwelloutpost.com

#### Bramwell Soda Fountain & Corner Shop CASUAL

Main Street, Bramwell 304-248-7632 • thecornershop.net

#### **Brooks & Company**

#### AMERICAN

1125 Bluefield Ave., Bluefield 304-323-3295

#### Buffalo Trail Restaurant AMERICAN



190 Buffalo Trail, Bluewell 855-349-9871 • buffalotrailcabins.com

#### Campestre MEXICAN

259 Greasy Ridge Road, Princeton 304-487-0003 • campestre.com

#### **Coal Country Kandies & Cafe**

#### CANDY & AMERICAN

301 Mercer Street, Princeton 681-282-5570

#### **David's Downtown**

#### AMERICAN

500 Bland Street, Bluefield 304-325-8145

#### **Dolly's Diner**

#### AMERICAN

909 Oakvale Road Princeton, West Virginia 304-425-4194

#### **Dragon Palace**

#### CHINESE

1295 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-425-7575 • dragonpalacewv.com

#### Farmer's Restaurant

#### SANDWICHES

2615 Bluefield Avenue, Bluefield 304-327-9305

## A Passion for Creating

isa Dawn Biermann is from a third generation coal mining family. Her great grandfather immigrated to McDowell County, West Virginia from Czechoslovakia and went to work in the coal mines. "West Virginia is all about coal," says Biermann. "It is in our blood."

To honor coal heritage, Lisa started making her coal candies in 2014 at her kitchen table. The fresh, hard candy is packaged to look like chunks of "coal" in a mason jar and comes in flavors like bubblegum and butterscotch to watermelon and sour apple. Things started slowly as she sold her candy door to door and at local

The fresh, hard candy is packaged to look like chunks of "coal" in a mason jar and comes in flavors like bubblegum and butterscotch.

shows, expos and events. Her big break came when her candy was juried into Tamarack. "Getting my candy into Tamarack was a dream come true. It really helped the popularity of my candy and helped jump start the business," says Biermann. "It was an amazing feeling to see something I created for sale on their shelves."

In 2016, she opened Coal Country Kandies in Princeton. The store's popularity grew quickly and she soon realized that she needed more space to continue to grow the business. So in 2018, she moved to a larger space in the Historic District in Princeton and added a restaurant. Coal Country Kandies & Cafe features traditional, homecooked meals like you would expect in a West Virginia home. Chicken and dumplings, meatloaf, cabbage rolls and daily homemade specials, all made from scratch.

Biermann hopes the success of her store will help stimulate more business growth in the historic district. This national historic district is highlighted by a beautiful railroad museum and other historic buildings all within walking distance of the main downtown. "Once they come, they love it," says Biermann.

Coal Country Kandies & Cafe is open Monday through Thursday from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and open 'til 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The cafe is located right across the street from the railroad museum at 301 Mercer Street in downtown Princeton.





After a long day of roaring through the mountains, prepare to be treated to the best of Southern hospitality. Off-roaders can even take their trail vehicles right up to restaurants, lodging and other stops around our ATV-friendly towns near the trailheads.

## Geminellis Bistro

259 Greasy Ridge Road, Princeton 681-282-5574 • geminelliswv.com

#### Gino's Pizza

#### PIZZA

100 South Vermillion Street, Athens • 304-384-7970 Rt. 52, Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield • 304-589-3373 ginospizza.com

#### Kimono Japanese Seafood

#### **JAPANESE**

223 Greasy Ridge Road, Princeton 304-487-8008

## Lynn's Drive-In

3705 Coal Heritage Road, Rt. 52, Bluefield 304-589-6279

#### Moe's Restaurant and Cafe GREEK, ITALIAN & AMERICAN

5804 Athens Road, Athens 304-384-8247

#### Mountain Creek Dining Room

#### FINE DINING

Pipestem Resort State Park, Open May–October 304-466-1800, ext 387 • pipestemresort.com/amenities.html

## Mulligan's Club House Grill CASUAL

Pipestem Resort State Park, Seasonal 304-466-1800, ext 387 • pipestemresort.com/amenities.html

## Old School Grocery

5485 Simmons River Road, Montcalm 304-409-5089

### Patty Joe's Restaurant

AMERICAN

3029 E Cumberland Road, Bluefield 304-800-4582









#### Portabella ITALIAN

412 Princeton Avenue, Bluefield • 304-325-3333 Mercer Mall, Bluefield • 304-324-7888

#### The RailYard

#### LUNCH/DINNER/NIGHT LIFE

530 Raleigh Street, Bluefield 304-800-4141 • railyardwv.com

#### Sister's Coffee House

#### CASUAL BREAKFAST/LUNCH

1606 W. Main Street, Princeton 304-487-8701 • sisterscoffeehouseonmain.com

### Slice Italian Beef and Pizza

ITALIAN

289 Courthouse Road, Princeton 304-921-0449

## Sophisticated Hound Brewing Company BREWERY & CASUAL

833 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-320-6674 Open Thursday-Saturday 4pm

#### **Taste of Memphis**

#### BBQ

1249 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-425-9667 • atasteofmemphis.com

## Tudor's Biscuit World

1218 Stafford Drive, Princeton • 304-487-8010 Rt. 52, Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield • 304-589-3383 3301 Cumberland Road, Bluefield • 304- 323-2333 tudorsbicuitworld.com

## Valley Country Restaurant

Blue Prince Road, Bluefield 304-325-8556

## Wrong Turn Pizza

7242 Crane Creek Road, Rock 304-589-0002

#### Yummi Japan

#### JAPANESE

1245 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-487-8949







# The Cherry on Top of Your Trip

he Corner Shop in Bramwell is a booming restaurant dishing up burgers and fries, milkshakes—homemade, of course—to hungry ATV riders. Locals also know a good thing when they see it; folks stop in for dinner with an old-fashioned malt or soda on a regular basis.

Donna and John Husbands opened the Corner Shop in October of 2010. The building was the former Bryant Pharmacy in the town of Bramwell. The couple loved the unique architecture and the Victorian history. They were surprised to find the original gooseneck soda fountain.

"The antique sparked an idea, a way to turn the building back to the past. We decided to open a restaurant. We took the soda fountain to Chicago and had it restored," Donna said.

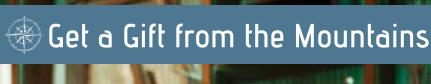
The menu is electric with burgers named after legends like Johnny Cash, James Dean and the Duke. Interesting toppings on burgers include mac n' cheese, chili, pineapple and jalapeños. Traditionalists will enjoy the classic burger and fries, but others will have a hard time picking a favorite. West Virginia staples – a deepfried pepperoni roll and a fried green tomato sandwich – also make the menu. Soups, salads and table-friendly appetizers round out the list. Sodas can be mixed with any flavor, from chocolate to cherry.

Dessert at the Corner Shop is special, thanks to the soda fountain and a row of homemade ice cream. Seasonal flavors, plus the classics, can be scooped up in fresh waffle cones or mixed into a milkshake. In the summer, expect flavors like key lime pie and banana pudding.

"The antique sparked an idea, a way to turn the building back to the past. We decided to open a restaurant." Donna said.

Nostalgic signs as decor, old-fashioned candy and servers dressed as soda jerks also add to the charm of the restaurant. In addition to the recreational appeal, the Corner Shop is also a destination for many who want to learn about the history of Bramwell. The town was once considered the richest town in the U.S., for its size, with reportedly as many as 14 millionaires in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Numerous large homes were built in the town by the wealthy coal operators. Twice a year, the town hosts public house tours so that visitors can get a peek inside the Victorian mansions.

The Corner Shop has received numerous accolades in recent years, including the 101 best places to dine in West Virginia, one of Zagat's Top 10 ice cream parlors in the nation and best milkshake and diner by various foodie websites, including USA Today.





**BLUE RIDGE BEE COMPANY** 

hic Appalachian antiques and mountain primitives galore! Our cherished memories are stashed away in these old keepsakes. It's a treasure hunt where everything's a lucky find.

Or, pick up something newly handcrafted at the local artisan galleries, where you can discover everything from fine paintings and completely unique creations to mountain collectibles.

For variety, swing through the gift shops, where you can find one-of-a-kind wares or quaint little keepsakes.

Our specialty shops can cater to your every whim, whether it's bikes, attire, jewelry, outdoor gear, records or yarn you're looking for (and more.)

#### **B & G Pro Shop**

Sportsman Drive, Bluefield 304-589-7432

#### **Beef Jerky Outlet**

700 Oakvale Road, Princeton 304-282-5575 • wv.beefjerkyoutlet.com

#### **Black Steel Arms & Coating**

613 Rogers Street, Princeton 304-362-9991

#### **Blue Moon Gifts**

Main Street, Bramwell 304-248-7414

#### **Blue Ridge Bee Company**

858 Mercer Street Princeton 681-282-5161 • blueridgebeecompany.com

#### The Bluefield Yarn Company

313 Federal Street, Bluefield 304-800-4229 • bluefieldyarncompany.com

#### The Bronze Look

311 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-5005 • thebronzelook.com

#### **Cheap Thrills Records**

1130 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-487-0404 • *cheapthrillsrecords.com* 

#### **Cole Harley-Davidson**

1804 Bland Street, Bluefield 304-324-8116 • colehd.com

#### Diamonds N' Gold Look

901 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-7830 • *dnglook.com* 

#### **Four Seasons Antiques and Appraisals**

150 Harmon Brand Road, Princeton 304-898-8369 • *4seasonsantiques.com* 

#### **H & S Sporting Goods**

708 S. Sanders Avenue, Princeton 304-487-1090 • hssportinggoods.com

#### **Hammer & Stain**

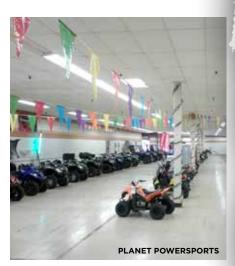
851 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-223-3600

#### The Hatter's Bookshop

935 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-487-0787 • hattersbookshop.com

#### **Heart String Gifts and More**

122 12th Street, Princeton 304-487-7484





#### **Hillbilly Cycle Sales**

317 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-4321 • hillbillycycle.com

#### Imogene and Rose Paper Studio

1603B Bland Street, Bluefield 304-887-3740

#### Just the Thing Gift Shop

2924 E. Cumberland Road, Bluefield 304-325-7121

#### K & K Music

2459 Washington Street, Bluefield 304-327-9309 • kandkgames.com

#### **Ladies & Littles**

513 Cherry Street, Bluefield 304-800-4904 • ladiesandlittles.net

#### **Landmark Antique Mall**

200 Federal Street, Bluefield 304-327-9686 • landmarkantiquemall.com

#### **Mercer Mall**

261 Mercer Mall Road, Bluefield 304-327-2507 • shopmercermall.com

#### Miller's ATV

3601 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 304-589-5277 • coalheritagecustoms.com

#### **Mountain Heritage Outdoors**

607 Athens Road, Princeton 304-425-4868

#### Only One Look

130 Princeton Avenue, Bluefield 304-324-2933 • onlyonelook.com

#### The Orchard House

103 Orchard Avenue, Princeton 304-431-9952

#### **Planet Powersports**

1862 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 304-822-4551 • planetpowersports.com

#### **Swampfox Motorsports**

2649 Maple Acres Road, Princeton 304-325-8258 • swampfixmotorsports.net

#### The Ugly Duckling Antique Store

301 Federal Street, Bluefield 304-449-4950 • theuglyducklingwv.com

#### WearHouse Clothing Co.

743 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-9327 • wearhouseclothing.com

#### West Virginia Crafts and Gifts

186 Greasy Ridge Road, Princeton wvdot.com/7tourists/wvturnpike/7f3d\_princeton.htm

#### The Willow Gift Gallery

300 Morrison Drive, Princeton 304-425-3687 • willowgiftgallery.com

#### **WV Motorsports**

1004 Stafford Drive, Princeton 304-487-3478



# Bluefield Yarn Company Niche Retail - Revitalizing Small Towns

aren Rideout's charming shop has everything you'd expect from a community yarn store. The shelves are lined with hundreds of skeins of yarn in rainbow hues and varied textures. In one corner, you'll find cute Binkwaffle dumpling bags and needle rolls. In another, a display of shawl pins and buttons. If you are looking for knitting needles, there are bamboo varieties and metal varieties and even circular varieties, in

addition to a range of crochet hooks. There are patterns, kits, and instructional books and magazines. You'll find everything you need to craft that special scarf or blanket or sweater or sock.

But the Bluefield Yarn Company offers so much more. It's a special gathering place—a place where people come together not only to knit and crochet, but to unwind, connect, and build friendships. And as any knitter knows, knitting is cheaper than therapy.

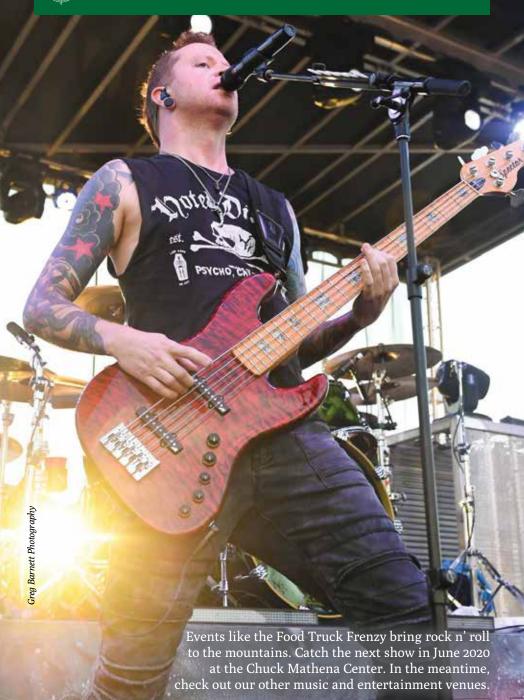
"Knitting and crocheting are important for my creativity and sense of accomplishment. These two arts are also calming and often help me focus on a larger task at hand," she says. "I love seeing the stitches, the patterns, the colors and textures of the yarns come to life and each time become something new and heautiful."

It's a special gathering place—a place where people come together not only to knit and crochet, but to unwind, connect, and build friendships.

The Bluefield Yarn Company is a unique shop that compliments the other restaurants, antique stores, clothing stores and gift shops in downtown Bluefield to create a real hometown visitor experience. Rideout and her shop have knitted themselves into the fabric of Bluefield. "I just love Bluefield," she says. "I love the mountains, the seasons, and especially the people. Everybody is very giving and always trying to make things better for others. It is a beautiful place to live." And now, it is a beautiful place to shop.



# A Modern Beat of Arts & Culture



ur certified Arts Community and rich history are a feast for the eyes. Our heritage inspires amazing artisans and helps frame the Mercer Street Grassroots District neighborhood in downtown Princeton. The district boasts of massive, colorful and intricate murals. While galleries and art shops showcase everything from traditionally crafted glassworks to quirky creations with flair.

The arts really come to life—in every town and city. Enjoy the Bluefield Arts Center's intimate performances and gourmet dinner theaters. The Chuck Mathena Center features national touring acts and shows, and live music pops up throughout the area.

#### **AMC Theatres**

Mercer Mall Road, Bluefield 304-325-2169 Catch the latest blockbuster movie in this eightscreen movie theater.

#### **Artistic Adventures**

850 Mercer Street Princeton 304-800-0460 Paint-Your-Own-Pottery & Art studio where all ages become artists and all hearts will shine.

#### **Blue Mountain Performing Arts**

various venues 276-326-4248 bluemountainperformingarts.com
This community organization brings top-rated musicians and performers from around the world to Mercer County. From the sounds of the symphony to Broadway, be ready for great performances.

#### **Bluefield Arts Center**

5002 Bland Street, Bluefield 304-325-8000 • bluefieldartscenter.com This theater and event center will offer a variety of productions, ranging from music, theatrical performances and more.

#### **Chuck Mathena Center**

2 Stafford Commons, Princeton
304-425-5128 • chuckmathenacenter.org
Concerts, theater performances and community
events at this state-of-the-art facility focuses on the
arts in southern West Virginia. The line-up varies from
children's musicals to Christian concerts, symphony
performances and much more. The center is also a host
for many weddings, receptions and art shows.

#### **Concord University**

1000 Vermillion Street, Athens
304-384-3115 • concord.edu
The H.C. Paul Studio Theatre hosts numerous
theater, dance and concert productions each year,
ranging from student-led productions to special
guests. Both students and faculty gather together
for the arts at this campus theater.

#### **East River Mountain Town Band**

2625 Cliffmount Avenue, Bluefield 304-952-1792

A band made up of community members tours throughout the county, performing favorite songs, holiday classics, patriotic songs and more. Open to the public, these free concerts are performed at various locations including Bluefield Performing Arts Center, Pipestem Resort State Park and Mercer Mall.

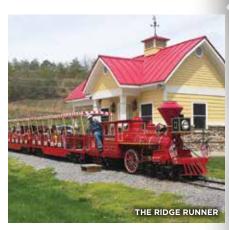
#### The Ridge Runner

Lotito City Park, 1780 Stadium Drive, Bluefield 304-327-2448 • theridgerunner.org
Ride on the famous Ridge Runner train. Open weekends and holidays during the summer, April 1 through Sept. 30, weather permitting. Open daily: 11 a.m. -4 p.m.

#### The RiffRaff Arts Collective

869 Mercer Street, Princeton 304-425-6425 • riffraff.net

The RiffRaff is a multi-purpose art building, in the Grassroots District, that features music, a fine art gallery, pottery, crafts and special events. Home to LLyniuM Entertainment, the RiffRaff is also headquarters to several fairs and festivals in the area. Call for hours: 304-320-8833.





#### **4Pals Production**

3832 Coal Heritage Road, Bluefield 304-589-0339

Kick back and let the good times roll with theater productions by 4Pals Productions. This group of actors and actresses know how to laugh. Original screenplays are a hit with audiences. Reservations are required.

#### Gary Bowling's House of Art

300 Ramsey Street, Bluefield 304-324-4242

Located in the Historic Ramsey School, Gary Bowling's is a one of a kind House of Art that features artists from all over Appalachia. The gallery is full of unique and interesting art pieces that span all genres. Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment only.

#### **Green Valley Bowling Center**

501 Airport Road, Bluefield 304-327-0481

A bowling center with 16 lanes, bounce houses for children, billiards room, video games, roller skating and concessions.

#### Holler: Contemporary Appalachian Art Gallery

900 Mercer Street, Princeton

864-982-3123

Represents what makes the region unique and complex through visual art exhibitions, classes, workshops, and cultural events.

#### **Mountaineer Bowling Lanes**

3224 E. Cumberland Road, Bluefield 304-325-7037 • mountaineerbowling.com Twenty-eight lanes of bowling fun, plus a billiards room, game room, snack bar and pro-shop.

#### **Pipestem Drive-in**

4572 Hinton Road, Athens 304-384-7382

Open during the spring and summer, more than 200 cars can fit into this nostalgic drive-in theater.

#### **Pottery Time**

514 Rogers Street, Princeton

304-487-2010

Paint your very own one of a kind piece of pottery—from figurines to plates and bowls.

#### Skate Shack

469 Airport Road, Bluefield 304-800-4903

304-800-4903

Friday through Sunday, you can skate under the lights at Mercer County's only skating rink.





# A View of American Nostalgia

he perfect summer night starts under the stars in Almost Heaven, West Virginia. In Athens, a small community located in Mercer County, West Virginia, the stars align every weekend at the Pipestem Drive-In Theater. Cars line the lot, families pull out lawn chairs and blankets and settle down for their favorite big screen flicks. The atmosphere—that combination of nostalgia and family time—is almost magical and hard to find.

Of the 348 drive-in movie theaters remaining in the United States, West Virginia has only six still in operation. The youngest of West Virginia's remaining drive-ins, the Pipestem Drive-In opened in 1972.

Open May through September on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, there is room for 285 cars with sound through speakers or through your car radio. If you sit close to the concession stand, outdoor speakers at the stand are easy to hear as well. It is a throwback to earlier times but with modern conveniences.

One of the best parts of going to the Pipestem Drive-In is the beautiful journey to get there. Home to Concord University, Athens is a trip through the countryside. The scenic two-lane road passes through farmland and sleepy communities like Speedway. The trip, especially during sunset, will set the mood for a relaxing, summer evening together.

Athens is home to one of the last remaining drive-in theaters in the state.

The drive-in is much more affordable than the traditional theater. Tickets are \$7 and just \$4 for children under 11. Sunday nights are only \$14 per car load, so pile in and bring the whole family! Pipestem Drive-In is located on Hinton Road in Athens, WV.

Call 304-384-7382 for show times.



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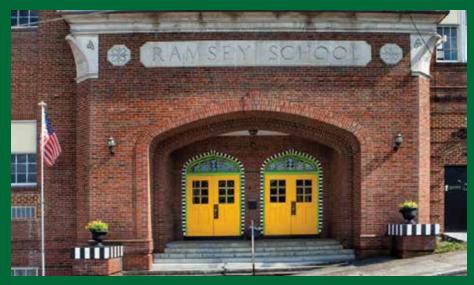






Check our website in April for the 2020-21 season lineup!

2 Stafford Commons Princeton, WV • 304.425.5128 www.chuckmathenacenter.org • info@cmcwv.org



# From Trash to Treasure at Gary Bowling's House of Art

n Egyptian coffin made out of a shipping container and a camel carved out of reclaimed wood are just two pieces you'll be able to spot when visiting The Queen's Tomb, a themed area located on the third floor landing at Gary Bowling's House of Art (GBHA). "The building is six stories, and there are three sets of staircases in the building. Each landing will be a journey into a different time and place," said GBHA Director, Vicki Queen. "We're working on a steampunk area and a medieval castle, too."

"GBHA is constantly evolving — new people come in with new ideas and inspirations, artists come and go — this organization is a living, breathing organism," Bowling said.

Two of the coolest things — and let us tell you, there are many cool things — that the work is shown by Appalachian artists (about 8–10 artists are on display in the public gallery space at present, including an exhibit by featured artists Tom Acosta and Jamie Powers) and much of it is made from recycled or found materials. GBHA folks refer to themselves as "the ultimate dumpster divers."

"Everything here started life as something else," Queen said.

To give you a little bit of background: GBHA is rather well-known around Mercer County and Southern West Virginia. Bowling, a Bluefield native, started the organization in 2008 with a mission to be a "vital resource to Appalachian artists" and offer opportunities for the community to "discover, experience, and explore the arts in an inviting and welcoming atmosphere." There is a core group that has been present for all 11 years, that has helped to guide and mold the House of Art by staying true to their mission.

"Having a permanent home the size of the Ramsey gives us the ability to dream big. We want this building to become a destination for tourism, a community of artists, a resource for the community to expe-

rience, learn and explore the arts — all of the arts," Bowling said. It's a perfect match, and the GBHA crew are excited to be "planting the seed and nourishing it" as they work to restore and preserve the building to be able to educate, entertain and inspire future generations.

While it is a work in progress — ¾ of the building is unrenovated — visitors can still stop by and explore. Gary Bowling's House of Art is open to the public on Saturdays (12–11:30 p.m. in October) and by appointment. Admission is free.

# -BLUEFIELD-

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### Download the Free MyBluefield App!

Available on Apple and Android Devices

- Business Directory Digital Coupons News Events Calendar
- Links to Resources Bluefield City Park Trail Discovery Map

## **Need to Know**

#### Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau

621 Commerce Street, Bluefield visitmercercounty.com 304-325-8438 / 800-221-3206

#### **Mercer County Board of Realtors**

304-487-3443

## The Chamber of Commerce of the Two Virginias

Bluefield Location: 619 Bland Street, Bluefield 304-327-7184

Princeton Location: 1522 North Walker Street, Princeton 304-487-1502 • coctwovirginias@gmail.com

## Mercer County Development Authority

1500 W. Main Street, Princeton 304-431-8523 • mercereda.com

## Mercer County Historical Society & Clay Memorial Park Foundation

908 Harrison Street, Princeton

## Transportation

#### **Mercer County Airport**

300 Markell Drive, Bluefield 304-327-5308 No commercial air service

#### **Bluefield Area Transit**

3208 John Nash Blvd., Bluefield info@ridethebatbus.com 304-327-8418 or 866-759-0978

#### **Greyhound Bus Stop**

1152 Bland Street, Bluefield 800-231-2222 • greyhound.com

#### **Cole Chevrolet Rental Service**

Rt. 460 at Rt. 598, Bluefield 304-324-2206 • colechevy.com

#### **Enterprise Rent-A-Car**

464 Old Bluefield Road, Princeton enterprise.com 304-431-3030 / 800-736-8222 / 800-325-8007

#### Hertz Rent-A-Car at Mercer County Airport

300 Markell Drive, Bluefield 304-325-3388 • hertz.com





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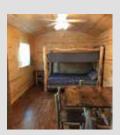
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# Create your own Mercer County Bucket List

If you're planning a visit to Mercer County, we hear you: there's a lot to see and do. That's why we've created this space for your own personal bucket list—just add what you're interested in and go!

□Visit	□Enjoy
□ Eat	□Try
□Watch	□Play
□ Do	□Learn
□Explore	□Be
□See	
□Make	

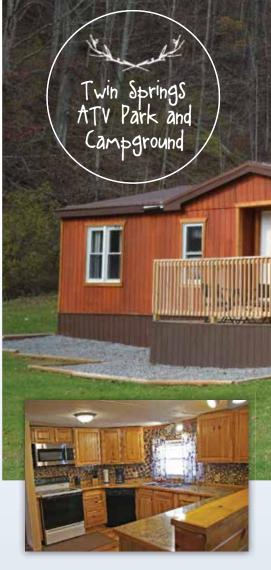
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1038 Goodwill Hollow Rd Duhring, WV 304-320-7660 | twinspringsatvpark.com









# Old School Grocery and Grill

Our ATV-friendly convenience store with beer, cigarettes, milk, soda, ice cream, candy bars, and the like—conveniently located next to Twin Springs ATV Park & Campground. We serve delicious food! Dine in, carry out, you can even call it in!



5485 Simmons River Rd Montcalm, WV 304-409-5127



CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

621 Commerce Street Bluefield, West Virginia 24701

