

CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

LAUREL HIGHLANDS

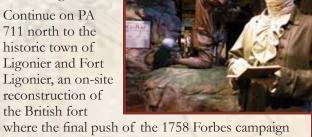
INFO: 1-800-333-5661 www.laurelhighlands.org

Explore Pennsylvania's beautiful Laurel Highlands, where a young George Washington fought to preserve the British Crown's claim to the frontier.

Along the National Road (US 40) is Fort Necessity Battlefield and Braddock's Grave, the final resting place of General Braddock who was mortally wounded in the Battle of the Monongahela. A short drive off US 40 is Dunbar's Camp and Jumonville Glen, a quiet woodland where the first shot was fired in the French and Indian War. Near Braddock's Grave is the Laurel Highlands Scenic Byway (PA 381/711), which takes you to Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater and

Kentuck Knob, and Ohiopyle State Park for biking, hiking, and rafting.

Continue on PA 711 north to the historic town of Ligonier and Fort Ligonier, an on-site reconstruction of the British fort



was launched to defeat the French at the Forks of the Ohio. At Fort Ligonier, see Washington's rare autobiographical manuscript written in his own hand. Stroll through Ligonier and enjoy its many restaurants and unique shops.



MERCER

INFO: 1-800-637-2370 www.VisitMercerCountyPA.com

In Washington's time travelers typically used Indian paths. Visit the village of Mercer, the town seat, which boasts the Mercer County Courthouse with marble floors, grand marble staircase and hand painted mural in the dome of the clock tower. Stroll the Courthouse Square and browse the quaint shops, including the Mercer Mercantile and Soda Shoppe.

Experience the outdoors with a visit to Maurice K. Goddard State Park and Lake Wilhelm, for boating, kayaking, fishing and a 12 mile scenic paved hiking and biking trail. More outdoor adventure awaits you on the Shenango River's 23 mile water trail. The river is perfect for kayaking or canoeing the class one rapids with numerous access points. For more excitement launch your high power boat at the Shenango River Lake and enjoy a day of tubing, water skiing and wake boarding.

There is no shortage of outdoor adventure in Mercer County. Even George Washington's entourage stayed along French Creek at today's

Boy Scout Camp Custalogastown. Bring the entire family and hike, bike, kayak or canoe the same area George Washington traveled in 1753. Visit us on the web for a complete list of attractions, accommodations, dining and more to help you plan your visit.



ALLEGHENY

INFO: 1-877-LOVE PGH (568-3744) www.visitpittsburgh.com

Pittsburgh, called the Forks of the Ohio' in the 18th century, is built on the piece of land over which the French, British and Native Americans fought for control.

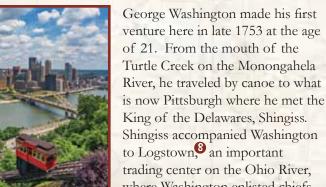
Visit Fort Pitt Museum in

Point State Park in downtown Pittsburgh, built in a reconstructed fort bastion. Tour the Fort Pitt Block House, built in 1764, and the city's oldest surviving structure. Walk the outline of Fort Duquesne, a French outpost that preceded Fort Pitt. Take a walk along the river walk to the Senator John Heinz History Center, 2 a Smithsonian affiliate and Pennsylvania's largest history museum.

Visit Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum, located three miles from downtown Pittsburgh in Oakland, where exhibits span from the Civil War to present day conflicts. See the site of Braddock's Defeat, where one of the most famous battles of the French and Indian War - the Battle of the Monongahela - took place. Braddock's Battlefield History Center, is located where the famous battle began in Braddock, approximately nine miles from downtown Pittsburgh.

BEAVER

INFO: 1-800-342-8192 www.visitbeavercounty.com



where Washington enlisted chiefs Tanacharison and Monacatootha as guides to the French forts further north. They traveled the Logstown Trail, which followed the Ohio River (Route 65) to Crow's Town, at the beginning of Crow's Run, then eastward (to Route 989) past Big Knob, then north (Route 68) through Zelienople and on towards Fort LeBoeuf.

While in Beaver County, visit the Old Economy Village in Ambridge, a settlement founded by the Harmonist Society in 1824. The Harmonists embraced new technologies in their communal village and soon gained worldwide recognition for their religious devotion and economic prosperity.

BUTLER

INFO: 1-866-856-8444 www.VisitButlerCounty.com

Follow Washington's path through Butler County and visit the historic Buhl and Passavant Houses in Zelienople. Make sure to pass through the quaint, old brick village of Harmony. 9 You will discover a multitude of history in this National Historic Landmark District. Take time to visit the Harmony Museum, which includes presentations of Washington's 1753 mission. You can also stroll through this charming town and visit the shops and restaurants.

Travel along PA 68 between Evans City and Connoquenessing to the spot where George Washington narrowly escaped death at the hands of an American Indian. The drive on PA 528 North meanders through Jennings Environmental Education Center and intersects with PA 8, the site of the Old Stone House. Visitors will find public tours and military reenactments from the 18th and 19th Century. Dine at Slippery Rock's popular colonial pub, North Country Brewing Company and enjoy the charm of this small town

with an unusual name.

On the return trip through Butler County, you'll travel on the Venango Trail (Franklin Road) that winds through the busy hub of Cranberry Township. Here you can find a multitude of places to eat, sleep or shop.







VENANGO

INFO: 1-800-483-6264 www.oilregion.org

PA 8 crosses French Creek in Franklin at Washington Crossing. Nearby is Riverfront Park, at the mouth of French Creek as it joins the Allegheny River, and the historic site where frontier trader John Frazier's cabin and French Fort Machault once stood - one of George Washington's stops in 1753.

Visit the historic Venango County Courthouse and the mural of George Washington and his traveling party arriving through snow on horseback Courtroom 1.

(note: Weekdays only. Please maintain quiet in courthouse.)

See DeBence Antique Music World Museum in Franklin with its extensive collection of old-time mechanical musical instruments and the Venango Museum of Art, Science & Industry in Oil City where you can see the "Black Gold or Black Magic?" exhibit. Take a walking tour and see the region's many Victorian era homes. Shop for antiques and artists' hand-made jewelry in Oil City and Franklin. While in the Oil Heritage Region, soak up the scenery on our 65+ miles of paved asphalt hiking and biking trails. Spend the night at the Witherup House Bed & Breakfast or the Quality Inn & Conference Center, both on Liberty Street in Franklin.

CRAWFORD

INFO: 1-800-332-2338 www.VisitCrawford.org

On your adventure following the trail through Crawford County launch your kayak or canoe into the historic French Creek, named by young George Washington and traveled by him in December 1753. Today French Creek has two DCNR

designated water trails – Upper and Lower. By land, Washington's Trail 1753 follows portions of historic Route 6, PA's 12th Heritage Park. Meadville, designated a Historic District, features the Meadville Market House, Pennsylvania's oldest continually operating market. The Market House still has outdoor markets, local products and goods. Downtown has great "Shop Small" shops and eateries that are welcoming and unique, including the famous VooDoo Brewery. A must visit is the Baldwin Reynolds House Museum, an 1843 Greek Revival Mansion, and the Johnson-Shaw Stereoscopic Museum, featuring threedimensional photography capturing the interest of generations starting from Queen Victoria's time.

Heading out of Meadville we recommend visiting Venango Valley Inn and Golf Course with its great food and a fun golf course. Next stop is Sprague Brew Works with a great atmosphere in a refurbished barn. Before leaving Crawford County, plan a stop at the historic Victorian style Riverside Inn in Cambridge Springs, known for their active dinner theater, and the mature and challenging golf course at the Riverside Golf Club, located just down the road.

ERIE

INFO: 1-800- 524-ERIE (3743) www.VisitErie.com

Fort LeBoeuf Museum, Waterford, is located on the historical site of the 1753 French Fort sur la Rivière aux Boeufs. It is part of the Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society's campus. Across the street stands the only statue of George Washington in a British uniform and a Fort sur la Riviére aux Boeufs interpretive panel that chronicles this critical link connecting Lake Erie to the Ohio River. The historic Eagle Hotel is nearby—a good place for lunch. Take a side trip on PA 97 to Union City, founded as a lumber and banking town along the banks of French Creek and visit the Historical Museum on Main Street. Or, from US 19 south of Waterford, head east on historic US 6 to Mill Village, which has one of the oldest established taverns in Pennsylvania.

North of Waterford, on US 19, is Erie



Pennsylvania's only port city on Lake Erie, and a connection to the Great Lakes Seaway Trail, designated an America's BywayTM (PA 5A). Find where the French Fort de la Presqu'isle once

stood (at the foot of Parade Street) in a strategic location overlooking Presque Isle Bay. Visit Erie Maritime Museum and the US Brig Niagara, both integral to Erie's rich maritime history. Relax at Presque Isle State Park, with seven miles of beaches and 14 miles of trails.









· Follow US 40 across the PA and MD border. • In Uniontown, take US 40 East/National Rd. · Follow US 19 North to Fort LeBoeuf Museum in Connellsville and Uniontown. • Take US 119 South in Greensburg, towards • Cambridge Springs - turn LEFT to stay on US 6/19. LAUREL HIGHLANDS • Venango - turn RIGHT to stay on US 6/19. Irwin to Greensburg. following US 6/19 North through Saegertown. • Follow US 30 East/Lincoln Hwy. through • At end of Parkway (approx. 3 miles) turn LEFT

(note: Penn Ave. becomes PA 8 and US 30.) • Turn LEFT onto Penn Ave.

straight at end of bridge. • Turn LEFT and cross the bridge and continue

Washington Crossing.

• Follow PA 28 to the 40th Street Bridge at

· Merge onto PA 28 South.

• Turn RIGHT onto PA 8 South, follow 10 miles. .esim č.o wolloj, follow 6.5 miles. onto N. Chapel Road. Turn LEFT onto PA onto US 19 South. Follow 1.8 miles, turn LEFT

• Follow Red Belt about one mile and turn LEFT

Warrendale Rd. (Red Belt) and turn RIGHT.

· Follow Franklin Rd. to Bakerstown/

ALLECHENY COUNTY

off to the left. railroad tracks, take Franklin Rd., which splits • Turn RIGHT PA 68 WEST, immediately after monument, take PA 68 East, then return to Evans City.)

and Evans City. (note: To see George Washington • Turn RIGHT onto PA 528. Follow to Prospect • Continue south on PA 8 to the Old Stone House.

BUTLER COUNTY

Venango Counties.

Reverse northern route through Mercer and S. Main St. to US 322 East.

• In Meadville, follow PA 86/N. Main St. to

• In Cambridge Springs, follow PA 86/S. Main St. CRAWFORD COUNTY

the French fort by canoe via French Creek.) Return from Erie County on the same route into

Cambridge Springs. (note: Washington traveled back from

RETURN ROUTE WASHINGTON'S

THROUGH WESTERN PENUSYLVANIA **WASHINGTON'S NORTHERN TREK**

· Follow signs for Fort Duquesne Bridge and after (note: Fort Pitt Museum is located in Point State Park.) LEFT onto Commonwealth Place.

crossing bridge exit onto PA 65 North.

Waterford.

EKIE COUNTY

French Creek Parkway.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

• At the second traffic light, turn RIGHT onto US 6/19

• In Meadville, turn LEFT onto Linden St.

• Near Wesley, take Old Route 8 to Franklin.

VENANGO/MERCER COUNTIES

• Follow US 422 East to PA 528 North.

• Follow US 19 North to Portersville.

Harmony on the left.

BUTLER COUNTY

(13th Street/PA 2008.)

BEVAEK COUNTY

· Turn onto PA 989 North.

· Follow PA 108 East to PA 8 North.

From Franklin, follow US 322 West to Meadville.

• Take PA 173 North to Slippery Rock and PA 108

• Take PA 528 North to PA 8 and PA 173 North.

Mercer Rd. Follow Mercer Rd. to US 19 North.

• Turn RIGHT onto PA 68 East through Zelienople to

• Follow PA 65 North (Obio Kiver Boulevard) about 15 miles.

• Take Main St. in Harmony, turn RIGHT onto

• Turn RIGHT onto Conway-Wallrose Rd.

• Take West Park Rd. north to US 422 East.

Pennsylvania/Maryland border. • Begin on the National Rd., US 40 West at the

about 3 more miles to the foot of the mountain. Turn RIGHT North. (**alternate route: Passing Dunbar's Camp, continue US 40 and continue west to Uniontown to US 119 to Jumonville Glen and Dunbar's Camp. Return to onto Jumonville Rd. Follow approximately 3 miles Battlefield, at the crest of the Summit, turn right of the entrance gate to Fort Necessity National

onto Old US Route 119 and follow to US 119 North.)

· Follow US 119 N to US 30 West.

onto PA 48 North and follow 2.5 miles. • Traveling along US 40, approximately five miles west

Braddock's Battlefield History Center is located at 609 6th St., Driving past steel mills and through Braddock (note: Braddock Ave. and then S. Braddock Ave. Bear LEFT onto Tri-Boro Ave., which becomes • Turn LEFT onto PA 130 West, follow 3.8 miles. ALLEGHENY COUNTY • Follow US 30 West (Lincoln Highway.) Turn RIGHT

** There may be areas of the route without signage.

interest found throughout the brochure.

** Numbers on map correspond to points of

THE TRAIL --

Return trail deviates from Northern Route

Pittsburgh, turn

and follow through East Liberty

• Turn LEFT onto Penn Ave. (PA 8)

State Park in Downtown

and continue to Downtown

Pittsburgh. At Point

SOMERSET

LAUREL HIGHLANDS

WASHINGTON'S TRAIL - 1753

This trail is a driving route through western Pennsylvania. Traversing modern highways, the route commemorates young George Washington's first military and diplomatic venture in the Fall and Winter 1753 - 1754. Today, the route primarily follows major roads. However, in some areas there are alternate historic or scenic routes suggested which may more closely align with Washington's travel in the fall of 1753, and these are likely to be back roads. Visit washingtonstrail.org for

WASHINGTON'S MISSION

In 1753, the imperial nations of France and Great Britain and the American Indian Nations all claimed control of the Ohio Country, the area encompassing presentday western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. Acting on orders from Virginia Governor Robert Dinwiddie, 21-year old Major George Washington embarked upon a dangerous expedition north from Williamsburg to deliver a diplomatic message to the French ordering them to evacuate the region. The French erected three forts to reinforce their claim to the area: Fort Presque Isle (Erie, PA), Fort sur la Riviére aux Boeufs (Waterford, PA) and Fort Machault (Franklin, PA).

During his journey to the French forts in the winter of 1753-1754, young Washington encountered many hazards. There were "excessive rains and vast quantity of snow". He was nearly shot by an American Indian guide near Harmony, PA, and he nearly drowned in the icy waters of the Allegheny River near presentday Pittsburgh, PA. When Washington returned to Williamsburg in January of 1754, he reported to the governor that the French intended to remain entrenched in the Ohio Country. This marked the beginning of the military struggle known as the French and Indian War.

Blue/white round trailblazer signs are located along Washington's route through the scenic western Pennsylvania countryside. Pick up the trail at the Maryland/PA border and follow it north. Relive Washington's first military expedition—retrace the steps of our first president, take advantage of the historic and natural attractions along the way.

WASHINGTON'S TRAVELS

OCTOBER 31, 1753 - JANUARY 16, 1754

OCTOBER 31

Washington departs from Williamsburg, Virginia

NOVEMBER 15

The expedition enters the forests of southwestern Pennsylvania

NOVEMBER 22

Washington writes in his journal -'the excessive rains and vast quantity of snow that had fallen, prevented

our reaching Mr. Frazier's, an Indian Trader, at the Mouth of Turtle Rock, on Monongahela.'

NOVEMBER 23

Washington arrives at the Forks of the Ohio (now the City of Pittsburgh, PA), and surveys the site for a future British fort

NOVEMBER 26

Washington meets in Council at Logstown with leaders from the Six Nations of the Iroquois

DECEMBER.

The party arrives at Mr. Frazier's other cabin near what later becomes Fort Machault (now Franklin)

DECEMBER 11

Washington arrives at Fort sur la Riviére aux Boeufs and delivers the British Crown's message to the French commander

DECEMBER 16

Washington departs from Fort sur la Riviére aux Boeufs on his return journey

Near present-day Harmony, PA an

American Indian guide shoots at

Washington

DECEMBER 27

DECEMBER 29

Washington nearly drowns crossing the Allegheny River

JANUARY 16

Washington reports to Governor Dinwiddie in Williamsburg

Washington's Trail 1753 310 East Grandview Avenue Zelienople, PA 16063 866-856-8444 www.washingtonstrail.org

This brochure was initially produced by French and Indian War 250, Inc. in collaboration with the Graphic Design students at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Map by Emir Bukva. Graphic Design by Greg Benninger. Updated in 2017 by Washington's Trail 1753.

Pennsylvania



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICATION

Stay on South Braddock Ave. for several miles. cross over or under Rankin Bridge. Follow signs for Pittsburgh and turn RIGHT again at the stop sign. (note: do not PROBLEMA Braddock, PA 15104), turn RIGHT (just before bridge) BUTLER MERCER CKAWFORD TYNKET HICHTYNDS

FOLLOW GEORGE WASHINGTON'S

THROUGH WESTERN

PENNSYLVANIA

A DRIVING GUIDE