Biking in the Gorge

Reel the

Trom Mild

to Wild

Liking in

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Family Fun in the Gorge

SCALE THE CLIFFS OF THE GORGE



with Maura Kistler

"You know the old saying 'the person having the most fun wins'? That's true here."

Vast, sandstone cliffs are a defining feature of the New River Gorge climbing scene. To a novice climber, these impressive formations can seem intimidating and dangerous, but climbing a rock wall is one of the most exhilarating ways to get outside and explore the Gorge. When Maura Kistler first came here, she knew she had found her home. "I've been in the New River Gorge 28 years, and when I first moved

Bridge Buttress Climbing Area / **New River Gorge**



here I was immediately like, 'This is my place!'" She began her career as a teacher, but decided to join her husband Gene and their partner, Kenny Parker, as a co-owner of Water Stone Outdoors. Maura started climbing in 1981 and has been a huge supporter of the Gorge's rock climbing scene since moving here.

Maura says the quality of the rock makes the New River Gorge a perfect place to climb. The sandstone that exists in the Gorge is unbelievably hard, unlike other sandstone. "The first thing climbers need is rock that they can count on," she says. "Combine that with the exploding bouldering scene and the fact that there are over 3,000 routes here with the possibility for more, and you have a great place for this sport."

THREE TYPES OF ROCK CLIMBING THAT ARE POPULAR IN THE GORGE.

- **Sport climbing:** This type of climbing involves using carabiners and ropes in already existing bolts on the rock face. Sport climbing is a safer, more accessible way to start rock climbing.
- **Bouldering:** A type of climbing that is done on low to the ground boulders or rock faces. Bouldering can be done without harnesses, ropes and other equipment. Crash pads (thick, padded mats) are used to cushion possible falls.
- **Trad climbing**: Also known as traditional climbing, trad climbing involves putting gear in cracks, openings in rocks and features like trees to protect you from falling far while climbing. This type of climbing should not be attempted by beginners unless on a guided trip.

South Nuttall / **New River Gorge**

SO YOU WANT TO ROCK CLIMB? WHERE YOU SHOULD START?

Here are Maura's tips for beginners.

Start with a guide

Learning the fundamentals is essential. Our local guide services can teach you everything you need to know.

Don't be afraid to reach out and look for mentors.

After you master the basics, reach out to members of the climbing community for guidance, we welcome every skill level.

HERE'S WHAT A CLIMBING STARTER KIT LOOKS LIKE:

HARNESS -

BOLT

- — BELAY DEVICE - CHALK BAG AND CHALK

HELMET

LOCKING CARABINER

CLIMBING SHOES

"Climbing in the Gorge is all about having fun, getting outside and enjoying a place where we can have so many outdoor adventures."

CRUX, CRAG, ROUTE... WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Stay in the know with this popular climbing beta:

BELAY

The system that stops a climber's fall by using rope, anchors, a belay device and a belayer.

BOULDERING

Climbing smaller scale cliffs and boulders without the use of ropes and hardware.

CRUX

The hardest move or sequence of moves on a climb.

DIHEDRAL

A section of a cliff where two walls come together at an angle creating a feature pointing in (i.e. inside corner).

HAND JAM

A shallow, ledgy section with fast water and lots of rocks to get hung on.

HEEL HOOK

A climbing technique where the the heel of the foot is used to pull against a hold on the rock.

ARETE

A section of a cliff where two walls come together at an angle creating a feature pointing out (i.e. outside corner). Climbing arete has a very aesthetic appeal and requires a specific climbing technique. It is rare to find so many great aretes in one place adding to the mystique and opportunity for great photos.

LAYBACK

A technique that uses the opposing pushing with the feet against the wall while pulling with the hands on a crack or hold.

MULTI-PITCH

A climb that is long enough or whose features require that more than one belay is involved to reach the top.

RAPPEL

To descend a fixed rope by lowering oneself along it using a device of some sort to manage the speed of descent.

SINGLE-PITCH

A climb whose length does not exceed one rope length.

ROUTE

The path or moves up a specific climb.

New River Gora

BIKING IN THE GORGE

with Adam Stephens





The Summit Bechtel Reserve

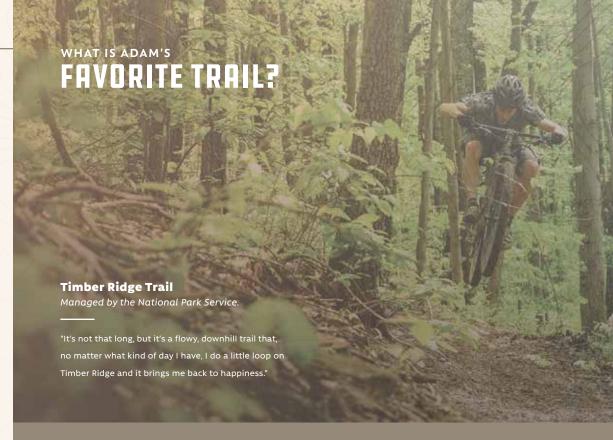
Imagine: flying through the woods on a swift trail. The wind whips past your face and adrenaline builds as you pump down the mountain. This is mountain biking in the Gorge, and no one knows it better than Adam Stephens. Adam, who is the Operations Manager for Arrowhead Bike Farm, grew up here. "I've been mountain biking my whole life—it's just what we did to get outside."

"The thing I love about biking is that it's anything and everything you want it to be," Adam says.

"Whether you are that racer wearing spandex or you're cruising around on a fat bike having fun, there's a lot of different opportunities with cycling."

According to Adam, the strongest asset that we have in the New River Gorge is the accessibility to the trails and the ease of use. "Other places you go it's a lot of backcountry, but here in the Gorge everything is pretty user-friendly," he says.

There are plenty of trails in the New River Gorge where biking is allowed, from trails within the National Park to rail trails in our small, charming towns. The Arrowhead Trails are extremely popular singletrack trails that are perfect for beginners or those looking for a fun, flowy ride. For a bigger challenge, head to the Summit Bechtel Reserve. These advanced trails with more aggressive terrain will have you flying through the forest. The trails at the Summit Bechtel Reserve are membership-based and seasonal become a Mountain State Trail Alliance Member at mountainstatetrails.org to access these trails from September to May.



READY TO GO BIKING IN THE GORGE?

You'll need a bike and some other gear. Check out one of the many local bike or adventure shops in the Gorge for rentals or to purchase a bike and other equipment. Don't know where to begin? Here's a handy list to help you get started!

— Bike

From full suspension bikes to hardtail bikes, local experts here will help you find the right one for you. We recommend visiting Arrowhead Bike Farm or New River Bikes and chatting with a staff member to find the right fit.

— Helmet

and under, but is recommended for everyone, especially beginners.

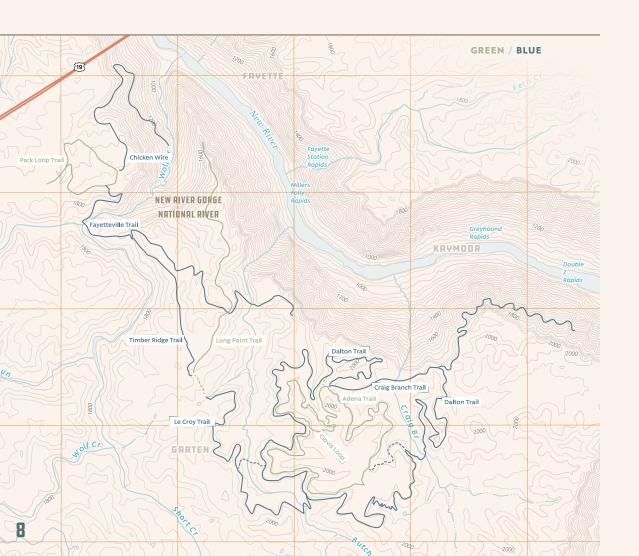
— Tall socks

If you're riding through brush, you're going to want socks that protect the lower part of your legs.

RIDE OUR TRAILS

Ready to start your mountain adventure?
Follow the flow of the **Arrowhead Trails Map**(below) or hit some gnarly terrain at The
Summit Bechtel Reserve Map (opposite).





THE SUMMIT
BECHTEL RESERVE

RIGHT



ACTION POINT

BEFORE YOU RIDE: To ride the trails at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, you need to become a New River Gorge Trails Alliance member. Go to NRGTA.org

Adkins Br 300

key

Trails are rated by technical difficulty. Reference trail color in the maps to match your skill level.

BLACK: DIFFICULT

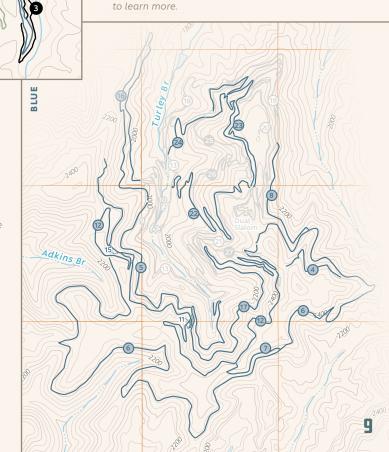
GREEN: EASY

BLUE: INTERMEDIATE

DUAL SLALOM TRACK

★ ACTION POINT BMX / MTB

• • • CONNECTOR



REEL IN THE PERFECT CATCH

with Sean Wishart



"I moved to the area in 1995 to train as a whitewater guide and have been here ever since. It didn't take long for me to realize how incredible the fishing is."

The New River Gorge is known for watersports, and one that is becoming more and more popular is fishing. With many different rivers, lakes and streams in the region, the fishing possibilities in the Gorge are endless. For over 20 years, Sean Wishart has been guiding fishing trips in the New River Gorge.

Sean says that there are two main factors that make the New River Gorge a great place to fish: remoteness and accessibility. "Water quality, volume and flow rate also help make this one of the best smallmouth bass fisheries in the country," he says.

When you go fishing in the Gorge, you'll find a variety of fish, including smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, spotted bass, muskie, walleye, catfish, carp and several varieties of panfish.

Seasons play a role in fishing, too—
spring and fall are the best times to fish here. Most fish species are more active in cooler water and are aggressively feeding in the spring and fall.

Fly fishing in a creek and float fishing from an oar raft are two of the most popular guided trips you can take with an outfitter, but locals are known to set up a chair and fish from the riverbanks, too.

Sean's experience lies in whitewater fishing on the New River. Combining a relaxing fishing trip with exciting whitewater rapids makes the Gorge an incredibly unique fishing destination.

"In general, I look for areas that are right above or below a rapid on the edge of the current, and behind any rock that forms an eddy." As for access, Sean says "National Park Service access areas and boat ramps are the best places to gain access to the river either by foot or by boat."

For some sections of water, like the Lower New River, Sean recommends booking a trip. "I highly recommend booking a trip with one of the local fishing outfitters if you are unfamiliar with whitewater—there are sections with rapids that should not be attempted without prior whitewater experience."

New River / **New River Gorge**

SO, WHERE'S THE PLACE TO BE WHEN YOU WANT TO FISH?

Try these recommended spots:

BABCOCK STATE PARK

Boley Lake and Glade Creek are excellent fishing opportunities at Babcock State Park. Chances are you'll find some largemouth bass, bluegill, catfish and trout here.

HAWKS NEST STATE PARK

Spend a relaxing day on the water, fishing for bass, catfish or trout. Take in more of the scenery during a hike along Mill Creek Trail.

GLADE CREEK

Hike the Glade Creek Trail along this rushing body of water for three miles of the best catch and release trout fishing in the Gorge.



Smallmouth Bass

Location: New River

Time of Year:

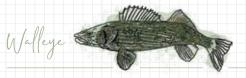
April through October

Size: 15-20 inch

Habitat:

right below or above a rapid on the edge of a current

As one of the most popular game fish, the smallmouth bass is also one of toughest fighting freshwater fish in North America. The cool, rocky streams and rivers of the New River Gorge make for the perfect habitat for this species, producing anywhere from 10 to 20 inch catches depending on the time of year. For experts and novice anglers alike, a medium action spinning rod or a casting rod paired with three to five inch soft plastics such as grubs, jerk baits and tubes are best. Prefer a fly rod? Look to use a weighted streamer and top water poppers to snag a smallmouth.



Location:

South (upstream) of the Gorge

Time of Year:

Spring or fall

Size:

30+ inches

Habitat:

Deep water

Location:

New River

Time of Year: Year-round

Size: 24 inches on average Habitat:

Undercut banks, rocks and other submerged structures in the slow beep pools in between

the rapids



Location:

Sandstone Falls to Thurmond

Time of Year:

Cooler months

Size:

30-40 inches

Habitat:

Slower moving water and areas with downed trees

Location:

New River

Time of Year:

May through August

Size:

6-10 inches

Habitat:

Submerged structure in the calm pools





Dunloup Creek and Glade Creek: New River at the mouth of a creek; Babcock State Park's Boley Lake and Glade Creek



Time of Year:

Spring; or summer and fall after rain

Size:

16 inches

Habitat:

Cool water with gravel bottoms, under down trees and boulders



Bluestone and Hawks Nest lakes

Time of Year:

Location:

Spring and fall

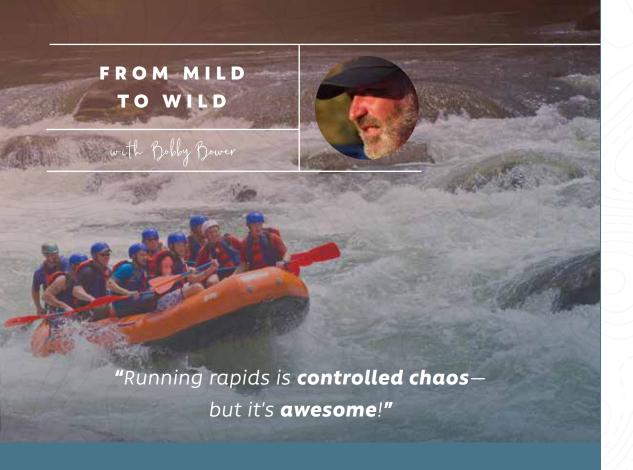
Size:

16-22 inches

Habitat:

Weed beds and downed trees

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It's no secret that the New River Gorge area has some of the best whitewater on the East Coast—maybe even the world. Drawing thousands of visitors every year, whitewater is in our blood.

No one lives and breathes whitewater more than Bobby Bower—local raft guide and general manager of Rocky Mountain Rafts. Born and raised in the area, Bobby has been guiding for over 31 years.

Monster rapids and epic surf waves can be found on both the New

River and Gauley River—the two best whitewater rivers in the area. You can raft 365 days a year in the New River Gorge area—with spring rains bumping water levels up to Grand Canyon sized waves, Bobby says. In the summer, the New River warms up, making the wave hits even more fun and you can cool off with a swim in the flatwater pools. Fall is Gauley season. Known as the "fifth season" in West Virginia, Gauley Season attracts thousands of boaters to the area to tackle some of the gnarliest whitewater around.

SO YOU WANT TO GO RAFTING BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Don't worry—we've got you covered. Here are some tips for beginners.



Get yourself a guide.

With a number of amazing rafting companies in the New River Gorge area, there are plenty of experts that will help guide you down the river safely. They'll also have all of the safety gear you need and will let you know what to wear.



Choose your river.

While the rafting company can help steer you in the right direction, ultimately, you have to decide how rowdy you want to get on the river.



The New River

The Lower New offers up Class IV rapids with big waves and long flatwater pools. The Upper and Middle New is a more chill river, with Class I, II and III rapids—perfect for an easy float trip.



The Gauley River

Known as "The Beast of the East", it attracts rafters and kayakers from around the world. During Gauley Season, the Upper Gauley features the "Big 5"—five Class V monster rapids while the Lower Gauley has a mix of Class III and Class IV rapids.



Don't psych yourself out.

Hitting the river for your first time can be daunting. But, your guide will be highly experienced on the section of river you choose and is there to help you have an awesome time. Any day on the river is a good day, says Bobby. "Get unplugged and do something outside of your comfort zone," he says.

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If you are going to ride the river, you'll need to know the lingo. Here are a few essential terms to get you started:

BOULDER GARDEN

Type of rapid or short section of river defined by numerous rocks and boulders strewn throughout the channel.

EDDY

A relatively quiet spot found on the downstream side of rocks, pilings, rock formations, etc.

HOLE

A feature created by water flowing over an obstacle near the river surface resulting in a reversal of current.

POOL

A deep, slow moving stretch of water found just below a rapid.

POUR OVER HYDRAULIC

A feature created by water flowing over a large obstacle such as rock, ledge or manmade horizontal structure creating a "hole" below the obstruction.

HIKING IN THE GORGE: TAKE IN THE VIEWS



with Molly Wolff

"For Molly, learning to put down the camera and **enjoy the moments** is one of the most important lessons of photography."



Thurmond Bridge / Thurmond

Chances are when you tell someone you visited the New River Gorge, they're going to ask you "Where did you hike?" Hiking here is the main attraction, with trails for every skill level and scenic views that will leave you breathless. Meet Molly Wolff: professional photographer, coowner of New River Climbing School and mom of two.

Hiking is one of the ways Molly's family loves to play outside. Her list of mustsee stops consists of two iconic hikes: Endless Wall and Glade Creek. "I always take new visitors to the Endless Wall trail. It is popular for a reason, with beautiful forests, creeks and a lofty view of the New River below. You might also get lucky and see climbers scaling the cliffs. The Glade Creek trail is another fantastic choice that is easy, beautiful and offers an enchanting swimming hole along the way." Molly also recommends hiking the trails around Nuttallburg to explore the history of coal mining in the region and visiting Babcock State Park for a little more challenge.



It's all about the view.

All of these trails provide an ideal backdrop for incredible photographs, from the ruins of coal mines in Nuttallburg to the views of the New River Gorge Bridge from Long Point Trail. For the best sunset, Molly recommends heading to Beauty Mountain or Bridge Buttress. The sweeping Gorge views make golden hour at both of these locations a sight to behold.

Different seasons provide different photography opportunities, too. In winter, the bare trees make it easy to spot scenery you might miss that's

in the summer. Hike Endless Wall or Long Point in the winter and you could spot a waterfall from the rim of the Gorge. In spring, look for wildflowers on the forest floor—Glade Creek is an excellent spot to hunt for these colorful gems. Summertime is the perfect time for action shots. Adventure sports like whitewater rafting, stand up paddleboarding and rock climbing are in full swing. And fall? You won't want to miss the opportunity to take scenic photos of the Gorge ablaze with fiery hues.

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For Molly, learning to put down the camera and enjoy the moments is one of the most important lessons of photography. "I love photography and it is hard for me not to think about the perfect shot. As I have had kids I have found myself actually putting down the camera more and just soaking in their uninhibited moments. The sunset is always more beautiful and memorable in person. Also, print your pictures.

Don't let these memories get lost. Share them and display them in ways that will continue to excite and inspire you."

Surfing / New River Dries



Go out and find your next hiking and photography adventure in the New River Gorge, and make sure you share your experiences with us by using the hashtag #newrivergorge!

MOLLY'S TIPS FOR ADVENTURE PHOTOGRAPHY:

Don't let the weather discourage you!

"Our weather can change very quickly so be prepared. Don't let rain in the forecast determined you—storms offer some of the best moods and lighting. Thick fog in the Gorge is worth some added moisture in your day."

Using a cell phone? Check to make sure the lens is clear!

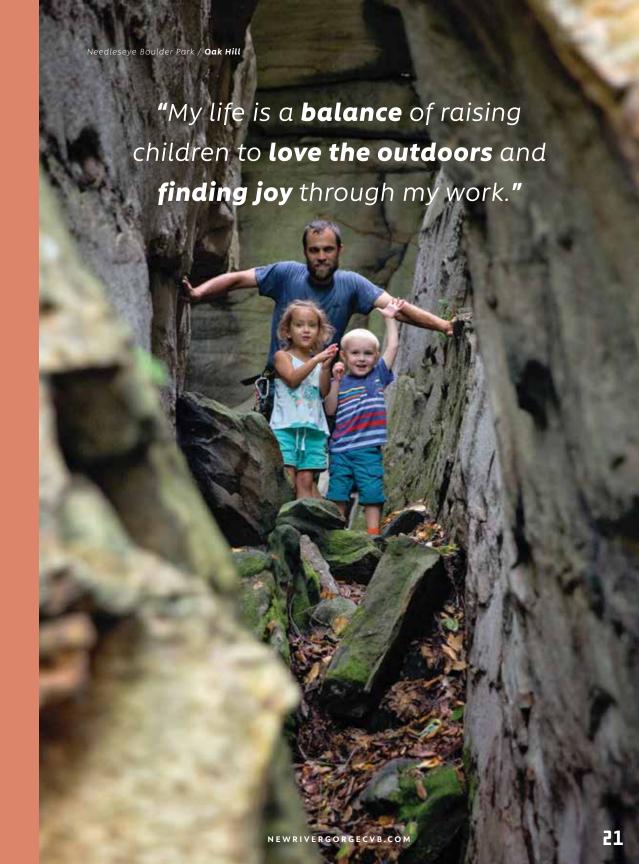
"The lens can get foggy from playing, hiking and sunscreen."

Play with fun phone features.

"HDR can be a fun function to play with to keep highlights and shadows in your picture, and play around with low angles."

What about selfie spots?

"You can't go wrong with a photo of you on a raft with the New River Gorge Bridge behind you, or from the top of Ram's Head at Beauty Mountain."



THE NEW RIVER GORGE LIFESTYLE

with Sharon Cruikshank



Outdoor recreation and natural beauty are two of the main reasons people choose to visit the Gorge.

But what about the culture? Part of what makes the New River Gorge such a unique place is the lifestyle, and no one knows it better than Sharon Cruikshank. Sharon is a lifelong Gorge native and was the director of the New River Gorge Convention & Visitors Bureau for 22 years.

For Sharon, promoting the region she calls home is one of her greatest joys.

She loves hearing praise from visitors

about the area. "One of the main things that visitors talk about when they come here are the people. We always get comments that everyone here is so friendly and willing to help," Sharon says. "We also hear 'I didn't realize there was so much stuff to do here!"

Beyond outdoor recreation, there are plenty of other things to do in the Gorge! Simply exploring the charming, small towns can be an adventure. Discover Appalachian cuisine, art inspired by the area, thrilling festivals and so much more





Wood Iron Eatery / Fayetteville

THE DINING SCENE

The New River Gorge is a foodie's paradise. From coffee to dinner and everything in between, take your taste buds on an adventure. Here, you'll find unique pizzas, cuisine from around the world, meals made with locally sourced ingredients and some of the best coffee you've ever had. Sharon recommends taking some time to slow down during your action-packed vacation and enjoy a good meal.

"One of my favorite things to do is to sit in one of the restaurants in town and read," she says. "It's a great way to unwind and experience the culture here." And don't forget about craft beer! Grab a locally crafted pint from Bridge Brew Works, one of the oldest craft breweries in the state of West Virginia. Or head to The Freefolk Brewery, the Gorge's newest addition to the region's growing craft beer scene.

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ART, FESTIVALS AND MUSIC

The scenic beauty of the Gorge inspires artists from all over. Murals cover buildings in Fayetteville, Oak Hill, Ansted and Mount Hope, so keep an eye out for them as you explore each town.

And when you step into a restaurant or shop, you'll always find something beautiful that's been made locally.

The Gorge is also becoming a hub for live music. Local venues have live music nearly every weekend.

Looking for a music festival? The Gorge has those, too. Every May

check out Mountain Music Fest, or visit in October for Bridge Jam, the official music festival of Bridge Day.

And if you've never experienced Bridge
Day, you're missing out on the largest,
most exciting single-day festival in
West Virginia. Every year on the third
Saturday in October, the New River
Gorge Bridge is closed to traffic and
opened to the public to watch as
daring BASE jumpers leap into the
Gorge below. It's an adrenaline-filled
day that you won't want to miss.



SHOPPING

Shopping in the Gorge can be an experience of its own. While nothing can replace the memories of all the adventures you've had, finding a special souvenir is a great way to remember the trip. Discover hidden treasures when you shop our antique malls, choose a uniquely crafted piece of art from a local artist or pick out the perfect gift for someone special at a charming boutique.

"Overall, I think what draws people to the Gorge is the beauty and the people. That's our treasure."





Look for George's leaf to find Family-friendly activities offered at these locations

ACE ADVENTURE RESORT

#1 Concho Road 800-787-3982 • aceraft.com

ADVENTURES ON THE GORGE

219 Chestnutburg Road, Lansing 855-427-6359 • adventuresonthegorge.com

ARROWHEAD BIKE FARM 🄌

8263 Gatewood Road, Fayetteville 304-900-5501 • arrowheadbikefarm.com

AUTUMN BREEZE FARMS 🏄

1006 Rocky Acres Road, Russellville 800-759-7238 • wytrailrides.com

BABCOCK STATE PARK 🄌

486 Babcock Road, Clifftop 800-CALL-WVA • babcocksp.com

BRIDGE WALK 🄌

57 Fayette Mine Road, Lansing 304-574-1300 • bridgewalk.com

BRIDGEHAVEN GOLF CLUB

295 Browns Road, Fayetteville 304-574-2120 • wwweb.com/bridgehaven

CANTRELL ULTIMATE RAFTING

49 Cantrell Drive, Fayetteville 304-877-8235 cantrellultimaterafting.com

COWBOY TOWN 🏄

25719 Midland Trail, Hico 304-860-0596

ESCAPE-A-TORIUM

151 North Court Street, Fayetteville 304-574-0137 • escape-a-torium.com

EDUESTRIAN ADVENTURES 🏕

37 Cunard Road, Fayetteville 304-574-0484 • horsebackwv.com

FAYETTE COUNTY PARK 🄌

2000 Boardwine Road, Beckwith 304-574-1111 • fayettecountypark.com

FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES 🄌

304-465-0121 • fayette.lib.wv.us

GAULEY RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

304-465-0508 • nps.gov/gari

HAWKS NEST AERIAL TRAMWAY 🄌

49 Hawks Nest Road, Ansted 304-658-5212 • hawksnestsp.com

HISTORIC FAVETTE THEATER 🄌

115 South Court Street, Fayetteville 304-574-4655 • historicfayettetheater.com

HORSESHOE CREEK RIDING STABLES 🄌

670 Smales Branch Road, Hico 304-658-3218

MOUNTAIN SURF PADDLE SPORTS

304-785-4108 • mtnsurfps.com

MYSTERY HOLE 🄌

16724 Midland Trail, Ansted 304-658-9101 • mysteryhole.com

NEEDLESEYE PARK

Needleseye Road, Oak Hill 304-469-9541

NEW & GAULEY RIVER ADVENTURES

115 Oscar White Road, Lansing 800-SKY-RAFT • gauley.com

NEW RIVER ATV

1631 Mountain Top Road, Oak Hill 304-461-6961 • newriveratv.com

NEW RIVER BIKES 🏄

221 North Court Street, Fayetteville 304-574-2453 • newriverbikes.com

NEW RIVER DORIES

PO Box 504, Mount Hope 304-465-3332 • newriverdories.com

NEW RIVER GORGE CLIMBING

101 Wiseman Avenue, Fayetteville nps.gov/neri/climbing

NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL PARK TRAILS 🏕

nps.gov/neri/planyourvisit/hiking.htm

NEW RIVER JETBOATS

49 Hawks Nest Road, Ansted 304-465-2525 • newriverjetboats.com

NEW RIVER MOUNTAIN GUIDES

101 Wiseman Avenue, Fayetteville 304-760-9791 • newriverclimbing.com

NEW RIVER YOGA STUDIO

128 South Court Street, Fayetteville 304.640.8479 • newriveryogawv.com

PINHEADS FUN CENTER, INC. 🄌

617 Jones Avenue, Oak Hill 304-465-5500 • pinheadsbowling.com

PRO RIVER OUTFITTERS

3224 Court Street, Fayetteville 304-575-5252 • profishwv.com

THE RIDGES 🌙

900 Broadway Avenue, Oak Hill 800-463-9873

RIVER EXPEDITIONS

900 Broadway Avenue, Oak Hill 888-463-9873 • raftinginfo.com

THE SUMMIT BECHTEL NATIONAL SCOUT RESERVE

2550 Jack Furst Drive, Glen Jean 304-465-2800 • summitbsa.org

TIMBERTREK ADVENTURE PARK 🄌

219 Chestnutburg Road, Lansing 855-427-6359

TREETOPS CANOPY TOURS

219 Chestnutburg Road, Lansing 855-427-6359 • adventuresonthegorge.com

ACTIVITIES

Continued

WEST VIRGINIA ADVENTURES

231 Wood Mountain Road, Glen Jean 800-292-0880 • trywva.com

WILD BLUE ADVENTURE COMPANY

282 Hinkle Road, Fayetteville 304-574-1150 wildblueadventurecompany.com

WINTERPLACE SKI RESORT

100 Old Flat Top Mountain Road, Ghent 800-607-7669 • winterplace.com

MUSEUMS

ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH MUSEUM

Ansted 304-658-4667 • 304-658-4817

CONTENTMENT MUSEUM

Ansted

anstedwv.com/places-of-interest.html

DUBDIS ON MAIN MUSEUM

116 Main Street, Mt. Hope 304-578-7707 • duboisonmain.org

SERVICES

HILLS TO HILLS TOURS & SHUTTLE

681-220-1146 • hillstohills.com

RAFTING & RECREATION CENTER 🌶

310 West Oyler Avenue, Oak Hill 800-927-0263 • newrivergorgecvb.com EXPERIENCE

EVENTS



NEW RIVER BIRDING AND NATURE FESTIVAL

New River Gorge, Oak Hill 800-927-0263 • birding-wv.com

N F

ANSTED HOMETOWN FESTIVAL

Ansted 304-465-5617 anstedwv.com/festivals-and-events

HOMETOWN MOUNTAIN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Downtown, Ansted 800-927-0263

WHITE OAK RAIL TRAIL EXPO

OFFICE: 310 West Oyler, Oak Hill EVENT: Virginia Street, Oak Hill 304-465-5617

JULY

APPALACHIAN STRING BAND FESTIVAL

Camp Washington Carver, Clifftop 800-CALL-WVA • wvculture.org/stringband

JULY JAMBOREE

Town of Fayetteville 888-574-1500 • visitfayettevillewv.com

THURMOND TRAIN DAY

Thurmond 304-465-0508 • nps.gov/neri/index.htm

OAK LEAF FESTIVAL

Downtown, Oak Hill 304-465-5617 • oakleaffestival.org

COUNTRY ROADS FESTIVAL

Ansted 304-465-561

GAULEY BRIDGE TOWN CELEBRATION

Gauley Bridge 304-465-5617

HANK WILLIAMS TRIBUTE & BEER FESTIVAL

Main Street, Oak Hill 304-465-5617

MOUNT HOPE JUBILEE

Mount Hope 304-465-5617

| BRIDGE DAY

EVENT: Route 19, New River Gorge **OFFICE**: 310 West Oyler Avenue, Oak Hill
304-465-5617 • officialbridgeday.com

TASTE OF BRIDGE DAY

OFFICE: 310 West Oyler Avenue 304-465-5617 • officialbridgeday.com

Bridge Day / **New River Gorge**

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LOCAL

THE 304

190 South Court Street, Fayetteville 304-900-5268 facebook.com/The304deliciouslysinful

ACE ADVENTURE RESORT

#1 Concho Road, Oak Hill 888-223-7238 • aceraft.com

ADVENTURES ON THE GORGE

219 Chestnutburg Road, Lansing 855-427-6359 • adventuresonthegorge.com

ARROWHEAD BIKE FARM

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15328 Midland Trail, Ansted 304-632-1002 • chimneycornerusa.com

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Fayetteville • 107 Keller Avenue 304-574-2202

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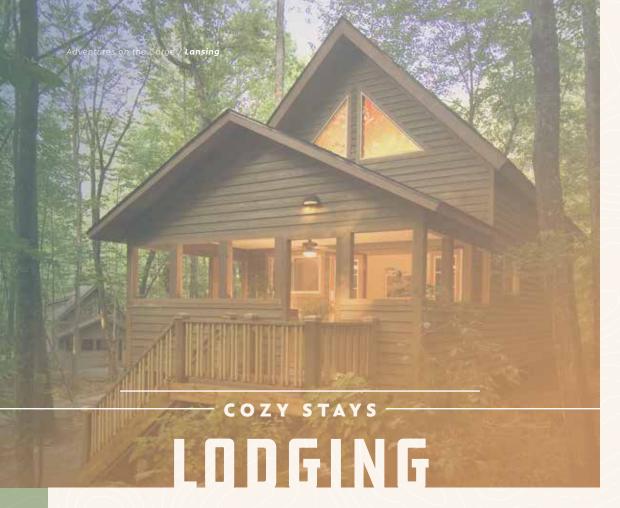
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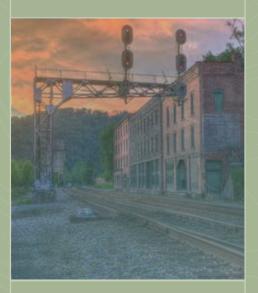
103 Elliots Way, Fayetteville 304-574-3443 • qualityinnnewrivergorge.com

THURMOND

ROUTE 25

POPULATION: 5

What was once a booming coal depot is now a ghost town with a population of 5. Thurmond is an isolated town along the New River that's worth exploring. Several well-preserved structures are still standing, including the National Bank of Thurmond.



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newrivergorgecvb.com



#GOGORGEWV 304-465-5617

DUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Here, family playtime begins outdoors. Fly through the trees when you go ziplining. The Ridges ziplines at River Expeditions and Adventures on the Gorge's TimberTrek are perfect familyfriendly aerial adventures. If you like to stay on solid ground, head outside for a hike or saddle up for a horseback ride with Cowboy Town on one of the Gorge's many trails. Or, spend the day at ACE Adventure Resort's Wonderland Waterpark! Climb inflatables, slip down water slides and get soaked on the splash pad—this water park is the perfect way to cool off in the summer heat.

DON'T FORGET BUG SPRAY.

- Rosie



Discover family fun with New River George, his nephew Georgie and his niece Rosie. As explorers of the Gorge, this adventuring trio will guide you to all the best spots in the region for every season!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY WHITEWATER



Think whitewater is only for the big kids? Think again! The Upper New River is the perfect section of river for familyfriendly whitewater rafting.

This portion of the New River features fun class I-III rapids that are perfect for beginners and kids. There are also long pools that are great for splashing and swimming.



Adventure outfitters allow kids as young as 6 to raft on the Upper New River, and there's no better introduction to whitewater than this scenic trip in the New River Gorge.

IT'S TIME TO SPLASH!

- Georgie

TIC TAC TOE

ROUND 3 —

COVER PHOTO

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ROUTE: Stretch Armstrong 5.12a, Bridge Buttress

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Molly Wolff

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Visit Southern West Virginia

West Virginia Tourism Office

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