

# Historic National Road - West Virginia

The Historic National Road was the nation's first federally funded interstate highway. It opened the nation to the west and became a corridor for the movement of goods and people. Today, visitors experience a physical timeline, including classic inns, tollhouses, diners and motels that trace 200 years of American history.



Length: 15.7 miles / 25.1 km

Time 20 minutes to drive or 8 to hours to experience the

Allow: byway.

## Local Information

**Wheeling Convention and Visitors Bureau**

1-800-828-3097

304-233-7709

## Visitor Services



### Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities

A paved trail is available for bikers and pedestrians along most of the byway.



### Food

There are places to buy food along this byway.



### Gasoline

Gasoline is available.



### Information

There is an authoritative information center along this byway.



### Lodging

There is overnight lodging along this byway.



### Phone

Public phones are available along this byway.



### Restrooms

There are toilet facilities along this byway.

### Retail



In Wheeling, there are many places to purchase items of interest at one of the many museums and stores in the historical districts.

### Seasons

#### Best Time to Drive

The byway is open all year but many feel it is best to drive during the summer when there is more cultural activities taking place.

#### High Season

Summer.

## Map and Directions



### Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

## Driving Directions

- Begin at the Pennsylvania/West Virginia state line on US Route 40.
- Cross the Wheeling Suspension Bridge in the city of Wheeling.
- Continue onto Wheeling Island.
- The byway ends on the bridge that leads to Bridgeport, Ohio.

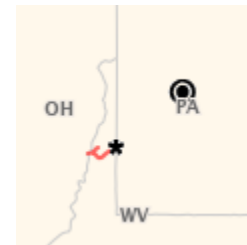
## Getting to the Byway



### Nearby cities

**Pittsburgh, PA** (46 miles / 74.03 km, 52 minutes)

- Start:** ● I-279 westbound, Pittsburgh, PA  
N 40.438° W 80.013° [?]
- Directions:**
- Take I-279 west to Rosslyn Farms, PA.
  - Get on I-79 and go south to Washington, PA.
  - Take I-70 southwest to US-40 where you enter the byway .
  - Continue west on US-40 to WV section of the byway.
- Junction with byway:** \* US-40 at West Virginia Border  
N 40.103° W 80.519° [?]



## Road Trip:

# A Tour of the West Virginia Historic National Road

**Departure:** Wheeling, West Virginia

**Destination:** Oglebay Park and Resort, West Virginia

**Time to allow:** 1 day

Travelers on the Historic National Road in West Virginia will experience a journey rich with historical highlights and beautiful surroundings. The byway has seen many of the events that have shaped our country, from the debates and skirmishes of the Civil War to the resounding echoes of the Industrial Era.

## Day 1

- **Start: Wheeling**

- **Stop 1: Shepherd Hall (Monument Place)**

**From previous stop:** 10 minutes / 5.4 mi (8.6 km)

**Directions:** Start out going east on WV-2 toward Chapline St. Continue to follow 16th St. for .4 miles before merging onto US-250 N toward I-70. After .5 miles, merge onto I-70 toward Washington.

Drive on I-70 for 3.2 miles, then take the WV-88 exit toward Elm Grove. Make a slight right after .2 miles onto US-40. The road then becomes Kruger St; where the Shepherd Hall is located.

Feel free to stop and take a look at Shepherd Hall, but the National Historical Monument is privately owned and not opened to the public

**Suggested time at this stop:** 30 minutes

Take a look at a piece of Wheeling and Historic National Road history at the Shepherd Hall. It was built in the late 1700s by Colonel Moses Shepherd, an influential advocate of the First National Road.

- **Stop 2: Kruger Street Toy and Train Museum**

**From previous stop:** 1 minute / 0.26 mi (0.4 km)

**stop:**

**Directions:** Start out going north on Kruger St toward Williams Ln. After .2 miles, end at Kruger Street Toy and Train.

**Suggested time** 2 hours

**at this stop:**

This is the site of the annual Marx Toy Convention. Located within a Victorian Schoolhouse, this museum offers individual, group, and bus tours. Come see their impressive collection of trains as well as antique toys.

- **Stop 3: Old Town Wheeling**

**From previous stop:** 8 minutes / 5.14 mi (8.2 km)

**stop:**

**stop:**

**Directions:** Start out going north on Kruger St toward Lounez Ave for .1 miles before turning right onto US-40. After .2 miles, merge onto I-70 toward Columbus Ave. After another .5 miles, merge onto I-470 via exit 5A on the left toward Columbus.

Take the US-250 N exit toward Wheeling after 3 miles, and keep left at the fork in the ramp. After .1 miles, keep right at the fork, and then stay straight to go onto 26th St.

Turn right onto Chapline St. after .1 miles, and then turn left on 22nd St after another .3 miles. End in Old Town Wheeling.

**Suggested time** 2 hours

**at**

**this stop:**

Wheeling's "Old Town" is a neighborhood of beautiful Victorian homes overlooking the Ohio River. Here you will tour two magnificently restored homes and have an opportunity to browse in unique shops, all reflecting Wheeling's turn-of-the-century elegance and charm.

- **Stop 4: West Virginia Independence Hall**

**From previous stop:** 1 minute / 0.36 mi (0.6 km)

**Directions:** Start out going northwest on 22nd St, toward Market St After .1 miles, turn right onto Market St and end at the West Virginia Independence Hall after .3 miles.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 1 hour

Learn the exciting story of how West Virginia separated from Virginia during the Civil War. Meet first-person living history characters, and experience other exhibits on state history. Constructed in 1858-59, this building became the scene of several conventions in 1861-1862 when the Restored Government of Virginia was established. The building is now under the direction of the WV Division of Culture and History.

- **Stop 5: Centre Market Historic District**

**From previous stop:** 1 minute / 0.1 mi (0.2 km)

**Directions:** Continue down Market Street to get a glimpse of this old part of town.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 1 hour

Two market houses are the focal point of the district; one designed in 1853 and the second in 1890. The district also includes Towngate theatre, businesses surrounding the market houses, and residential structures.

- **End: Oglebay Park and Resort**

**From previous stop:** 14 minutes / 5.81 mi (9.3 km)

**Directions:** Start out going north on Market St. toward 15th St Pl and .4 miles, merge onto I-70 toward Washington Pa. Drive on the road for 1 miles, then take Exit 2A toward Oglebay Park.

Stay straight to go onto the National Road. After .4 miles, turn left onto Bethany Pike. Continue to follow Bethany Pike for 3.6 miles to end at Oglebay Park.

**Suggested time at this stop:** 4 hours

This large city park, with more than 1600 acres, boasts a lodge, swimming, a lake, and several golf courses. You can certainly spend much of the day here enjoying many types of cultural events and fun activities.

Visit the Mansion Museum, Schrader Environmental Education Center, horse stables and much more!

### **Totals for Day 1**

**Total Distance Traveled:** 17.07 miles / 27.3 km

**Total Travel Time:** 35 minutes

**Total Stopping Time:** 10 hours 30 minutes