



## Along Kentucky's North Shore



*Kentucky's northern border is the Ohio River, across the top notch of the state (most of which Kentucky owns). The river has always played an important role in Kentucky's history and heritage so follow along and sample scenic beauty, quaint destinations and plenty of history.*

The trip to **Maysville from Lexington** takes a little over one hour, so you may want to plan some extra time to tour and wander off the main path for this part of the trip.

Follow U.S. 27/68 northeast toward Paris to take in towns that developed according to their proximity to the Ohio River. On the way, take a short detour to Blue Licks Battlefield State Resort Park, [www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/bl/](http://www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/resortparks/bl/). Known for its soothing, therapeutic salt springs by Native Americans, pioneers and affluent 19th Century Southerners, this is the site of the last Revolutionary War battle fought in Kentucky.

Meander over to the **Clay Wildlife Management Area** for a bucolic drive near the north-flowing Licking River.

Then head to **Old Washington and Maysville**, towns that were deeply involved in the Underground Railroad system during the Civil War. **Maysville/Mason County Convention and Visitor's Bureau** - [www.cityofmaysville.com/tourism/visitors open.html](http://www.cityofmaysville.com/tourism/visitors%20open.html)

**Russell Theatre** - [www.russelltheatre.org](http://www.russelltheatre.org)

**Kentucky Gateway Museum Center** - [www.kygmcc.org](http://www.kygmcc.org)

**Old Washington Visitors Center** - [www.washingtonky.com](http://www.washingtonky.com)

**Harriet Beecher Stowe Slavery to Freedom Museum** - [www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM3MFD](http://www.waymarking.com/waymarks/WM3MFD)

**Floodwall Murals** - [www.cityofmaysville.com/tourism/floodwall murals.html](http://www.cityofmaysville.com/tourism/floodwall%20murals.html)

KY 8 tracks along the river from east to west over the state's northern region. If you prefer a faster route a bit inland from the river, head for KY 9, the AA Highway, toward **Augusta**, the riverside hometown of George Clooney and the filming location for Disney's production of Huck Finn.

**Rosemary Clooney House Museum** - [www.rosemaryclooneyhouse.com](http://www.rosemaryclooneyhouse.com)

**Augusta Art Guild's Gallery** - [www.augustaartguild.com](http://www.augustaartguild.com)

Continue northwest and drop in on the tiny burg of California for some industrial strength tree climbing near A. J. Jolly Park. **EARTHJOY**, [www.climbtreeswithearthjoy.com](http://www.climbtreeswithearthjoy.com), Northern Kentucky's first recreational tree climbing destination.

15 miles more to **Newport**, a bustling river city where the history of the Mansion Hill Neighborhood is splendid and the attractions along the river bank fit every taste from family fun to night life.

**Newport Aquarium** - [www.newportaquarium.com](http://www.newportaquarium.com)

**Newport on the Levee** - [www.newportonthelevee.com](http://www.newportonthelevee.com)

Just across the Licking River in Covington, is the prototype for New York's Brooklyn Bridge. Construction began prior to the Civil War but was halted by the war. Completed in 1866 **Roebing's Suspension Bridge**, [www.roebingbridge.com](http://www.roebingbridge.com), is a testament to his talents.

Located in Devou Park, one of the largest urban parks in the state, the **Behringer-Crawford Museum**. [www.bcmuseum.org/bcmuseum](http://www.bcmuseum.org/bcmuseum), chronicles the culture, art and heritage of this river region.

Back on I-75, go south to the Ky 18 exit and turn west toward the Ohio to visit the quaint hamlet of **Rabbit Hash**, [www.rabbithashusa.com](http://www.rabbithashusa.com), (in Boone County named after you-know-who) just to the south on Ky 20. The town was featured on Animal Planet for its canine mayoral candidates and is home to the **Rabbit Hash General Store**, [www.rabbithash.com](http://www.rabbithash.com), which has been in business since the early 1800s.

Just down Ryle Road near Union is **Jane's Saddlebag**, [www.janessaddlebag.org](http://www.janessaddlebag.org), a "hands on" historic educational experience complete with a restored "saddlebag" home.

Go south and east on 338 along the river to the signs for **Big Bone Lick State Park**, [www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/recparks/bb/](http://www.parks.ky.gov/findparks/recparks/bb/). Mastodons and woolly mammoths once roamed this area to find salt deposits. The animals got mired in the bogs for eternity and now you can see their likenesses, visit the museum and other amenities.