



Kentucky's Mining, Music & Mountain Heritage

The following is a suggested group tour itinerary. For more tour ideas of each area, visit kentuckytourism.com. Times shown below are Eastern Time.

Day 1

- 12:00 p.m. Arrive in Lynch. Lunch at [Lamp House Coffee](#) or [other Harlan County area restaurant](#).
- Harlan County is a small mountainous county in southeastern Kentucky, with the town of Harlan as its county seat. The Harlan Tri-Cities area is a collection of three small towns: Benham, Cumberland and Lynch.*
- Lamp House Coffee is a gourmet coffee shop serving snacks, baked goods, light breakfast and lunch. The shop is perched above Looney Creek in the old miner's restaurant building that was built in 1921.*
- 1:00 p.m. Tour of the Harlan Tri-Cities area, which may include: [Portal 31 Exhibition Mine Tour](#), taking visitors into the underground world of coal miners and the old mining town; the [Kentucky Coal Museum](#), featuring exhibits focusing on miners' lifestyles, mining equipment and the "Coal Miner's Daughter" honoring Loretta Lynn; [Black Mountain Off-Road Adventure Area](#), a top U.S. off-road destination with over 200 miles of trails on more than 7,000 acres; [Poor Folks Arts & Crafts](#), showcasing local handcrafted items; [Kingdom Come State Park](#), the crowning jewel in the crest of Pine Mountain with 14 hiking trails and mountaintop overlooks; and others as time allows.
- 5:30 p.m. Check into [Quality Inn Harlan](#) or [other Harlan County area lodging facility](#).
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner at [The Portal](#) or [other Harlan County area restaurant](#).
- 8:00 p.m. Catch a show at the [Godbey Appalachian Cultural & Fine Arts Center in Cumberland](#) (seasonal, depending on schedule).
- The Godbey Appalachian Cultural & Fine Arts Center is located on the Cumberland campus of the Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College. The center preserves the region's culture and heritage with an extensive collection of artifacts, oral histories and photographs, plus performances.*

Day 2

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or [other Harlan County area restaurant](#).

- 9:00 a.m. Take a walking tour of downtown Harlan, which may include: the [Harlan County Coal Miners Memorial Monument](#), honoring those who lost their lives in the mines; [the Harlan Center](#), a 7,000 square foot event facility that is also the tourist information and welcome center for Harlan; and others as time allows.
- 10:30 a.m. Depart for [Middlesboro](#) in Bell County.
- 11:30 a.m. Arrive in Middlesboro for lunch at [Shades Café and Steakhouse](#) or [other Bell County area restaurant](#).
- 1:00 p.m. Begin tour of the Bell County area, which may include: [Cumberland Gap National Historical Park Visitor Center](#), the first great gateway to the West; the [Pinnacle overlook](#), a spectacular mountain overlook only four miles from the visitor's center that offers a view of the Gap in Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia; [Hensley Settlement](#), a historic settlement on top of Brush Mountain; the [Bell County Historical Society Museum](#), which houses artifacts and exhibits related to the county's history such as the Middlesboro meteor crash, coal mining, Indian artifacts and more; and others as time allows.
- 5:00 p.m. Check into [Pine Mountain State Resort Park](#) or [other Bell County area lodging facility](#).
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner at Mountain View Restaurant (at Pine Mountain State Resort Park) or [other Bell County area restaurant](#).

Day 3

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast at Mountain View Restaurant (at Pine Mountain State Resort Park) or [other Bell County area restaurant](#).
- 8:00 a.m. Visit [Chained Rock](#) and/or [Honeymoon Falls](#) at [Pine Mountain State Resort Park](#).
- Chained Rock was officially fastened to the adjacent cliff in the summer of 1933; allegedly to protect the city of Pineville from calamity should the ominous boulder perched precariously above town become loosened. There is an excellent panoramic view of Pineville, present day Highway 25E (formerly the Wilderness Road) and the surrounding mountain terrain. It's a 0.35 mile, moderately difficult hiking trail to the rock.*
- Honeymoon falls, at 25 feet in height, is the largest waterfall in the park. The falls are visible throughout the year but may be reduced to a trickle during long periods of dry weather. The section of trail from the official trailhead to the falls is exceptionally intriguing as the trail ascends a mountain stream and passes through lush growths of rhododendron. You'll also encounter old growth forest communities along this 1.35 mile, strenuous trail.*
- 9:00 a.m. Depart for [Stearns](#).
- 10:30 a.m. Arrive at [Big South Fork Scenic Railway](#) Depot for a train ride and a Coal Miner's lunch.
- The Big South Fork Scenic Railway operates on historic tracks once owned by the famed K&T Railway. Enjoy wide open vistas, roaring rivers, and the history and charm of Appalachia! On a three hour, 14 mile round-trip into the Daniel Boone National Forest and Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area. The trip is full of spectacular scenic vistas, lush vegetation and mountain streams as it descends 600 feet into the gorge before stopping at the Blue Heron Coal Mining Camp, a National Park Service outdoor interpretive site. Your ticket also includes admission to the McCreary County Museum in Stearns. Make sure you ask about lunch when you order your tickets! We*

have the Coal Miner's Lunch option – for just \$11, you get a handmade deli sandwich, chips, drink and a dessert!

2:00 p.m. Return to [Big South Fork Scenic Railway](#) in Stearns.

2:15 p.m. Depart for [London](#).

3:15 p.m. Explore [Levi Jackson Wilderness Road Park](#) in London.

Levi Jackson Wilderness Road Park is a former state park located just south of London, Kentucky in Laurel County. It's now a city park under the auspices of the city of London, KY. The park encompasses 896 acres and includes a section of the Wilderness Road that early settlers used to reach Kentucky.

4:30 p.m. Depart for [Renfro Valley Entertainment Center](#).

The Renfro Valley Entertainment Center is a 90-acre destination complex located in south central Kentucky that's proudly known as "Kentucky's Country Music Capital." Great classic country, southern gospel, and mountain bluegrass music rings from the rafters of two unique show theaters April through December of each year. Enjoy sleeping in the great outdoors? The award-winning Renfro Valley RV Park offers all the modern conveniences found in most hotels rooms along with 24 hour security.

5:00 p.m. Check into [Days Inn](#) or [other Renfro Valley area lodging facility](#).

5:30 p.m. Dinner at [The Limestone Grill](#) or [other Renfro Valley area restaurant](#).

7:30 p.m. Take in one of [Renfro Valley's shows](#) in the Old Barn Theater or the New Barn Theater. (Seasonal, depending on schedule.)

Day 4

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at hotel or [other Renfro Valley area restaurant](#).

8:30 a.m. Tour the Renfro Valley Entertainment Center and surrounding area to include the New Barn Theater, [The Village Shops](#) and the [Kentucky Music Hall of Fame & Museum](#).

10:30 a.m. Depart for [Berea](#).

11:00 a.m. Lunch at [The Boone Tavern Dining Room](#) (in the [Historic Boone Tavern Hotel](#)) or [other Berea restaurant](#).

Opened in 1909, Boone Tavern began humbly with 25 guestrooms to accommodate the many visitors of Berea College President William G. Frost and his wife Nellie. Now, the guest room tally is at 63, and a recent \$11 million renovation upgraded many elements of the property. This award-winning hotel is a member of the Historic Hotels of America and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

1:00 p.m. Tour of Berea area which may include: [Log House Craft Gallery](#), [Weston Glass Studio](#), [Becky Brown Studio and Gallery](#), [The Cabin of Old Town Artisan Gallery](#), [Becky's Breads](#), and others as time allows.

2:30 p.m. Explore the [Kentucky Artisan Center](#).

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea features a wide range of Kentucky's outstanding artisan works in its galleries, exhibition and shopping areas. You'll find superbly crafted

glass, pottery, metal and forged steel, sculpture, note cards, works from wood, fine furniture, and jewelry, as well as fiber and paper, specialty foods, music and books. The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea features artisan demonstrations every Saturday throughout the year from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., bringing the creative process to light for visitors. The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is open daily, year-round from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free.

3:30 p.m. Depart for [Richmond](#).

3:30 p.m. Tour [Fort Boonesborough State Park](#).

Fort Boonesborough State Park features a replica of Daniel Boone's original settlement of 1775. Daniel Boone and his men crossed the Kentucky River on April 1, 1775 and founded the settlement of Boonesborough, Kentucky's second oldest European-American settlement.

5:30 p.m. Check into [Hampton Inn](#) or [other Richmond area lodging facility](#).

6:30 p.m. Dinner at [Apollo Pizza](#) or [other Richmond area restaurant](#).

8:00 p.m. Optional after-dinner live music at [Dreaming Creek Brewery](#), a craft brewery located in the heart of Daniel Boone's frontier, or [Chenault Vineyards](#), a winery, vineyard and event facility located on 470 acres of beautiful Kentucky countryside. (Seasonal, depending on schedule.)

Day 5

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or [other Richmond area restaurant](#).

8:30 a.m. Depart for home.

Before visiting Kentucky attractions and restaurants, please check businesses' websites and social channels for the latest COVID-19 information.