Kentucky Music Trail

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

11:30 a.m. Arrive in Berea and have lunch at the Kentucky Artisan Center Café or other Berea area restaurant. After lunch, explore the Kentucky Artisan Center.

Berea is known as Kentucky’s “Folk Arts and Crafts Capital,” and is located just south of Lexington, KY. Berea is home to a thriving population of weavers, instrument makers, furniture artisans, jewelry designers, glass workers, potters, painters, sculptors and musicians. The story of Berea’s artisan community is interwoven with the historic Berea College, the first interracial and coeducational college in the South.

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 is open daily, year-round from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free.

1:00 p.m. Begin tour of Berea area which may include: Log House Craft Gallery, Weston Glass Studio, Becky’s Breads, The Cabin of Old Town Artisan Gallery, Top Drawer Gallery and others as time allows.

3:00 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.

3:30 p.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.

5:30 p.m. Check into Days Inn or other Renfro Valley area lodging facility.

6:00 p.m. Supper at The Limestone Grill, located less than a mile from Renfro Valley.
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 2**

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at hotel or other Renfro Valley area restaurant.
8:30 a.m. Depart for Pikeville.

For a rest break, stop in Hazard, which is about 87 miles from Renfro Valley and 69 miles to Pikeville. Around Hazard, some options include stopping by to see the famous Mother Goose Inn, exploring the Appalachian Artisan Center, enjoying a home-cooked meal at Circle T Restaurant, grabbing donuts from Pantry Shelf Donuts and a fresh cup of coffee from Hazard Coffee Company.

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Pig in a Poke or other Pikeville area restaurant.
1:30 p.m. Begin tour of Pikeville area which may include: The Appalachian Center for the Arts, Pikeville’s newest theatre attraction offering critically-acclaimed productions for visitors to enjoy; U.S. 23 Country Music Highway, a scenic byway running through eastern Kentucky that’s been home to over a dozen country music stars; the Pikeville Cut-Through Project, an astonishing engineering wonder that’s been called “the eighth wonder of the world” by The New York Times; and others as time allows.

5:00 p.m. Enjoy a brew at Broken Throne Brewing, a microbrewery and taproom focused on craft brews.
5:45 p.m. Check into Hampton Inn or other Pikeville area lodging facility.
6:30 p.m. Dinner at Mona’s Creative Catering and Fine Foods or other Pikeville area restaurant.
7:30 p.m. Optional after-dinner entertainment (seasonal, depends on schedule) at the Appalachian Wireless Arena.

The Appalachian Wireless Arena is located in downtown Pikeville. This multi-purpose facility totals 126,000 square foot, sports a 24,000 square feet floor and seats 7000. From family friendly shows such as Disney on Ice and the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, to thrilling rodeos, expos, concerts and more, the Appalachian Wireless Arena provides a spectacular variety of entertainment for the young and the young at heart. This multi-purpose facility regularly features critically acclaimed entertainment, such as Carrie Underwood, Darius Rucker, Larry the Cable Guy, The Band Perry, Billy Currington, Brantley Gilbert, Lynyrd Skynyrd, WWE and TNA wrestling, and many more.

**Day 3**

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at hotel or other Pikeville area restaurant.
8:30 a.m. Driving tour of the Hatfield-McCoy Family Feud sites.
Pike County is home to most of the significant Hatfield and McCoy feud sites. The Hatfields and McCoys were two famous families living in Kentucky and West Virginia near the Tug River who were involved in a violent feud for decades. The Hatfield and McCoy Driving Tour is a self-guided tour that includes all historic sites, both in Kentucky and West Virginia, of the feud. Visitors can see the Hog Trial Cabin, the McCoy Homeplace featuring the McCoy Well, the historic Pike County Courthouse where “Cotton Top” was put on trial, the feudists’ graves, and much more. Your self-guided tour begins at the front door of the Pike County Visitors Center (located in Hampton Inn Pikeville), with a brochure directing you to each site.

11:00 a.m. Depart for **Prestonsburg**.

11:30 a.m. Lunch at **The Brickhouse** or other **Prestonsburg area restaurant**.

1:00 p.m. Tour of the Prestonsburg area which may include: the **Samuel May House**, an exceptional example of Federal craftsmanship owned by Samuel May, a local who played a major role in the development of Prestonsburg and Floyd County; the **East Kentucky Science Center and Varia Planetarium**, which is one of the country’s most technologically advanced planetariums engaging visitors with hands-on experiments and out of this world dome and laser shows; **Middle Creek National Battlefield**, the site of the most significant Civil War battle in eastern Kentucky; and others as time allows.

3:15 p.m. Tour the **Mountain Arts Center (MAC)**.

   The Mountain Arts Center, aka MAC, provides Eastern Kentucky's best family entertainment! The 1,044 seat theatre is located within a stone’s throw of U.S. 23 Country Music Highway, and is home to Billie Jean Osborne’s Kentucky Opry and the Kentucky Opry Jr. Pros and hosts national headliners like Loretta Lynn, Dwight Yoakam, and Chris Stapleton. The MAC’s Arts Education Department provides individual private instruction for all ages. The facility also includes a commercial recording studio, meeting rooms, and an art gallery.

4:30 p.m. Explore the **Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre**.

   The Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre is one of the nation’s leading repertory amphitheatres. During each summer season from May to August, Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre features some of the most popular theatrical shows, including “The Legend of Jenny Wiley” and music festivals of all genres.

5:00 p.m. Check into **Jenny Wiley State Resort Park** or other **Prestonsburg area lodging facility**.

   Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, located deep in the heart of the Appalachians, is accented by scenic 1,100-acre Dewey Lake. Enjoy a variety of activities, from shows in the Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre located adjacent to the Wilkinson Stumbo Convention Center, to guided pontoon boat tours through mountain vistas, nature hikes through the wilderness where you can learn the calls of the wild from park naturalists and moonshine tours with live historians taking you through the history of ‘shine. Don’t miss the tasting! This full-service resort features 48 lodge rooms and 18 cottages for overnight stays, a dining room featuring Southern-style cooking, campground, marina, gift shop and meeting facilities for up to 800 persons.
6:00 p.m. Dinner at Music Highway Grill (at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park) or other Prestonsburg area restaurant.

7:30 p.m. Optional after-dinner entertainment (seasonal, depending on schedule): Attend a performance at Jenny Wiley Amphitheatre or The Mountain Arts Center (MAC).

Day 4

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or other Prestonsburg area restaurant.

8:30 a.m. Depart for tour of Loretta Lynn's Homeplace in “Butcher Holler” and Webb’s Grocery Store in Van Lear.

“Butcher Holler” is home of the world’s most famous coal miner’s daughter, Loretta Lynn. Her birthplace and family home is nestled between two fog shrouded mountains up a “holler” in Van Lear, Kentucky. Loretta Lynn is an American country music singer-songwriter that earned multiple awards in a career spanning 60 years.

Webb’s Grocery Store, previously known as the Number 5 Store because of the Number 5 mine located nearby. Located in Van Lear, the general store is over 100 years old and is currently owned by Loretta Lynn’s relatives, The Webb Family. The store was portrayed in the movies “Coal Miner’s Daughter”, “Let It Be War”, and “Fifth Hollar”. Visitors wishing to tour Loretta Lynn’s homeplace will need to stop in Webb’s Grocery.

10:00 a.m. Begin tour of the Paintsville area, which may include: Mayo Memorial United Methodist Church, built by eastern Kentucky’s first coal baron John C.C. Mayo, and featuring an organ donated by Andrew Carnegie; the historic Sipp Theatre, opened in 1932 as Paintsville’s first “talkie” and since that time has been a combination movie/concert venue; the Mountain HomePlace, a living history village depicting the rugged life in the mid-1800s; and others as time allows; the U.S. 23 Country Music Highway Museum, featuring exhibits and memorabilia about country music stars who call eastern Kentucky home, such as Loretta Lynn, Chris Stapleton, Keith Whitley, Dwight Yoakam and more; and others as time allows.

12:30 p.m. Lunch at The Carriage House Restaurant (located inside the Ramada Paintsville) or other Paintsville area restaurant.

2:00 p.m. Depart for Ashland.

3:15 p.m. Begin tour of the Ashland area, which may include: the Highlands Museum and Discovery Center, a heritage center featuring displays about country music stars born along U.S. 23, Country Music Highway, including a special display dedicated to the Judd’s; Paramount Arts Center, a restored 1930s art deco building hosting theater performances, concerts and private events; walking along the riverfront view the Statues of Ashland at the Port of Ashland; taking Ashland’s historic self-guided tour to view historic homes and business; and others as time allows.

5:45 p.m. Check into Delta Hotels By Marriott or other Ashland area lodging facility.

6:30 p.m. Dinner at The Winchester (inside the Delta Hotel) or other Ashland area restaurant.
Other local restaurants within walking distance of the hotel include: The Mill Café and Bakery, The Mill Tapas and Wine Bar, Fat Patty’s, The Jockey Club, Jim’s Hot Dog’s and Spaghetti, Whit’s Frozen Custard, The Coffee Bar and Tipton’s Traditions.

8:00 p.m. Optional after-dinner entertainment (seasonal, depending on schedule): taking in a show at the Paramount Arts Center, exploring Art Alley located on 15th Street next to the hotel or shopping at Ashland Town Center Mall. Check out Ashland’s calendar of events for other entertainment options during your stay.

Day 5

8:00 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or other Ashland area restaurant.

9:00 a.m. Depart for home.

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