

# MAIN STREET



# DISCOVER WEST VIRGINIA ... ONE MAIN STREET AT A TIME

Explore West Virginia by experiencing life in our Main Street cities and small towns. Visit the charming neighborhoods, historic attractions and distinctive architecture that give each Main Street community its own unique personality. Venture down West Virginia's Main Streets, one by one, and connect with a wild, wonderful state of being!





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## CHARLESTON EAST END

(304) 340-4253 • [www.eastendmainstreet.com](http://www.eastendmainstreet.com)

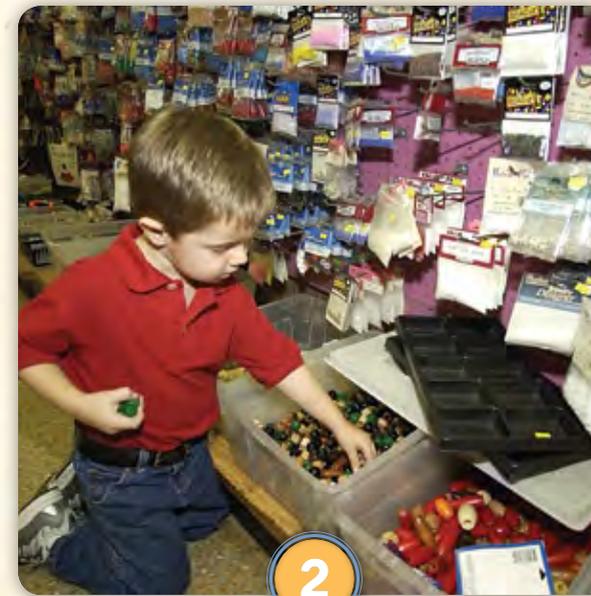
*One of the oldest and most diverse neighborhoods in Charleston, the East End is an eclectic community with a funky, urban style.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Charleston's East End is home to the West Virginia State Capitol, Appalachian Power Park, and Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia, Capitol Farmers' Market and more than 25 restaurants.
- The self-guided Walking Tour is a colorful guide through the East End that features the area's urban myths, unique history and architecture.
- "East End Eats" is a guide to the 25 great restaurants that dot the community. Featured are restaurants, specialty shops and tasty gems.
- The colorful mural on the corner of Elizabeth and Washington Streets is the product of local artist, Rob Keeley, who captured images of local families and children and brought them to life in a mural dedicated to the East End.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- The East End Yard Sale in May has grown into one of the largest events in this beautiful historical district. The sale attracts more than 200 different sellers and thousands of visitors who come to hunt for bargains, shop, dine and sightsee.
- FestivALL in late June takes to the streets of Charleston, showcasing high-quality local and world-class artists in music, dance, theater, visual art and film.
- The East End Garden Showcase visits more than 25 gardens on a free self-guided tour through the month of June. The tour celebrates the East End historical neighborhood's diverse urban gardens. East End homeowners, apartment dwellers and businesses have cultivated beautiful green spaces in the heart of the largest city in the state. As a partner in the Charleston FestivALL the participating gardeners will be available for an informal "Q & A" or meet and greet with visitors.
- On Memorial Day weekend the state capitol grounds celebrate traditional West Virginia arts at the annual Vandalia gathering. This free festival brings to the visitor art, music, dance, stories, crafts and food of the state.
- A yearly calendar of Broadway shows, symphony performances, and musical events are held at the Clay Center for the Performing Arts.



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## CHARLESTON WEST SIDE

(304) 720-3161 • [www.westsidemainstreet.org](http://www.westsidemainstreet.org)

*The West Side is a significant and historic passageway in its region.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- It is home to the Charleston Light Opera Guild theater company, the upscale Kelly's Men's Shop and some of the oldest and most well-known family businesses in the state.
- Popular places to please the palate include The Smokehouse and The Grill, a lunchtime/dinner hotspot for many state leaders and town locals.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- February's Valentine Promotion includes a gift basket from Main Street retailers with prizes, such as car detailing, spa treatments, flowers and sweet treats.
- The Kanawha Trestle Rail Trail Project is currently working to create an urban trail for walking, biking, jogging and in-line skating in the West Side area.
- In June, wiener dog races are part of Charleston's FestivALL. Included are races for puppies, adults and senior dogs, puppy parade, vet corner, food vendors, pet blessing and wiener dog merchandise.



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## FAIRMONT

(304) 366-0468 • [www.mainstreetfairmont.org](http://www.mainstreetfairmont.org)

*Fairmont is known as "The Friendly City" and home of the pepperoni roll.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Intricate historic architecture and the preserved High Level Bridge are visual treats. Pricketts Fort State Park, Marion County Historical Society Museum and the Telephone Museum are rich with history.
- State Route 250, which connects Mannington Main Street with Fairmont, provides a scenic setting for country drives.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- The Italian street festival, Feast of the Seven Fishes, takes place in December. You don't have to be Italian to celebrate Christmas with good Italian cooking, arts and crafts, music and entertainment. The festival's name is derived from an award winning novel written by Fairmont native, Bob Tinnell.
- The Chocolate Tasting Tour is a delicious reason to visit participating Main Street businesses in February.
- The Mon River Trail connects Fairmont with Morgantown and is reserved for walking, jogging, cycling and cross-country skiing.



## KINGWOOD

(304) 329-2717

*Located in the picturesque mountains of Preston County, Kingwood is a small town with quaint shops and unique restaurants. The community was named for a beautiful grove of "King Trees."*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Attractions include antique shops, the Preston County Arts Council Gallery, Preston County Country Club & Golf Course, an old fashioned barber shop and the Cheat River.
- Kingwood is also home to Camp Dawson, the Homeland Security Training Center for the East Coast.
- Enjoy dining at neighborhood establishments such as Monroe's Restaurant (gourmet); Cafe 130 (Nuevo cuisine); Mary's Restaurant (cooking just like Momma's); and the Preston County Inn, built in the 1800s (fine dining and lodging).

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Held the last weekend in September, the Preston County Buckwheat Festival claims the "Best Buckwheat Cakes in West Virginia." This festival offers parades, carnival, "hometown spirit" exhibits, 4-H show, antique car show and juried craft show. Thousands of people come home to Kingwood for special time with family and friends enjoying the week-long activities and the beauty of the fall season in Preston County.
- On the first Friday of every month from May through September, downtown Kingwood comes alive with "Pig Picken Friday." This event features slow roasted pork dinners with all the trimmings and live music in the streets.
- The Downtown Merchants Street Fair celebrates West Virginia's birthday in June.
- Special holiday celebrations include "Christmas on Main Street" with countywide parade, toy giveaway to area children, business open house, and luminaries lining the streets — all contributing to the "good old hometown Christmas spirit."



## MANNINGTON

(304) 986-2037 • [www.manningtonmainstreet.org](http://www.manningtonmainstreet.org)

*"Old Town, New Friends" is the motto of this Main Street community of about 3,000 residents.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- The Historic Homes Tour includes houses built during the 1800s by local oil barons. The stately homes showcase such distinctive Victorian features as gabled roofs, turrets and vibrant colors. Previous tours have included behind-the-scenes looks at homeowners' restoration projects such as creating a mold. The tour takes place the Saturday before Mother's Day in May. Starting April 1, tickets are available through participating Mannington merchants or Mannington Main Street.
- Get connected over coffee with wireless Internet service at the This and That Café.
- From his shop in the historic bank building now owned by Mannington Main Street, gunsmith Lewis Patrick builds rifles for customers throughout the country.
- The annual Christmas Open House is held the first Saturday in December. The event features a parade and open house for downtown businesses and local museums.
- Built as a dairy barn in 1912, the restored Mannington Round Barn now contains a collection of antique farm equipment, carriage, sleigh, early mining tools and other West Virginia artifacts.
- Housed in a 1912 caboose, the Miniature Railroad Museum displays area transportation system artifacts, such as whistles, stoves and lanterns.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Mark the Sunday of the first full week of August on your calendars for the Mannington District Fair. Founded in 1932, the fair features heritage arts and crafts, music, carnival rides, food and more.
- The Octoberfest offers treasures for craft and food enthusiasts. Held the first Saturday in October from 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., this event fills the downtown with street vendors and local shoppers every year. Music, entertainment and a children's talent show are held on Citizen Square.
- From the first Friday in June through the end of August, sit back and enjoy the flicks at the Main Streets Outdoor Movies, held on Citizen Square. Bring your own chair and blanket.



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## MARTINSBURG

(304) 262-4200 • www.mainstreetmartinsburg.com

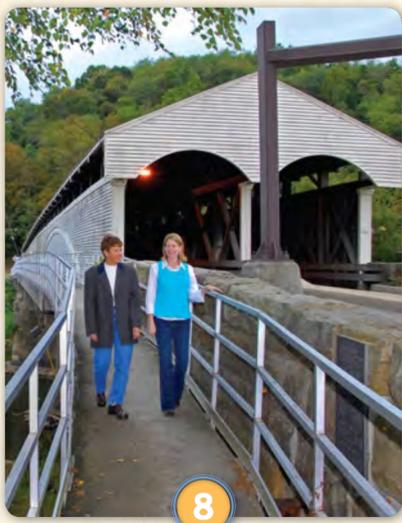
*This community's small-town friendliness and historic past thrives in harmony with new industry.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- The Downtown Historic District encompasses the majority of the original town as designed in 1773, with several architecturally and historically significant buildings. This Main Street community offers 10 blocks of shopping, featuring jewelry, antique, flower, book and chocolatier marts.
- The Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Roundhouse, rebuilt in 1866-1872 after being burned by Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson's Confederate troops during the Civil War, now serves as a designated National Historic Landmark and community center for public events.
- The Belle Boyd House, home of a notorious female Confederate spy, now houses the Berkeley County Historical Society.
- The Berkeley County Historical Society and Landmarks Commission offers self-guided walking and driving tours and guided trolley tours of Martinsburg and Berkeley County.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- On Bike Night, an estimated 2,000 motorcycles gather for a ride through the scenic countryside, then rumble in parade to downtown Martinsburg. The street festival includes live music, a beer garden, food and merchandise vendors. The event takes place the third weekend in August.
- The Mountain State Apple Harvest Festival in October celebrates the role of apples in history and culture with a parade, juried arts, apple pie baking contest and more.
- The West Virginia Book Faire at Olde Town Martinsburg in November features authors, workshops, refreshments and food for thought.
- Meandering through Jefferson, Berkeley and Morgan counties, the 112 mile Washington Heritage Trail is open for scenic motor driving, bicycling and motorcycling.
- The Palette Project invites local artists to paint an artist's palette in their choice of medium. The artwork is displayed throughout Martinsburg.



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## PHILIPPI

(304) 457-3700 • www.philippi.org

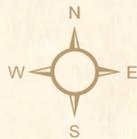
*Philippi is a safe, peaceful town known for its famed two-lane covered bridge, the only one in the federal highway system.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Philippi is home to Alderson Broaddus College, a Baptist-affiliated college with approximately 900 students.
- The Philippi Covered Bridge built in 1852 is the nation's only covered bridge serving a federal highway.
- The historic Barbour County Courthouse houses a renovated courtroom with stained glass windows and skylight.
- Nearby Teter Creek Lake and Tygart River offer water recreation including fishing, skiing and rafting.
- The only bicycle shop in the county, Sports and Spokes, based in Philippi, organizes bike races and excursions in the area.
- The unique Knitting Machines Etc. offers supplies and instruction classes on knitting with a loom-like machine.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Philippi Main Street organizes the annual "Smoking on the Tygart" chili cook-off. The event takes place the Saturday of Father's Day weekend in June. The day of family activities includes a motorcycle poker run, music, games and food.
- Chartered in 1844, Philippi is the site of the first land battle of the Civil War, an event commemorated each June in the annual "Blue and Gray" historical re-enactment. The three-day event brings thousands of people to the area to enjoy food, entertainment and Civil War demonstrations.



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## MORGANTOWN

(304) 292-0168 • www.downtownmorgantown.com

*Historic downtown Morgantown presents a charmingly eclectic mixture of small retail businesses, professional services, restaurants and residential units.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- The Caperton Trail includes 8 miles of paved surface perfect for walking, rollerblading, strolling and biking.
- Deckers Creek Trail offers an 1,800 ft. incline over 18 miles.
- Morgantown is the scenic mountain home of West Virginia University and all that entails from sporting events at the Coliseum and Mountaineer Field to performing arts at the Creative Arts Center.
- Downtown shopping offers one of a kind specialty shops, such as gourmet chocolates, fine wine, antiques, art galleries and unique jewelry. The historic Seneca Center houses unique boutiques and shops.
- Originally a warehouse district, the Wharf District is now a revitalized growing commercial and residential center. Located next to the Monongahela River, it is one of the best portals to the Caperton Trail.
- Over 40 cafes, pubs and fine dining establishments offer visitors a choice in cuisine.
- Take a historic walking tour of downtown Morgantown visiting architecture, locations and events that helped to shape the city of today. An audio tour is available.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Enjoy ice sculptures, winter games and events in Morgantown during Winter Carnival every February.
- A one-day chocolate extravaganza comes to town during Chocolate Lovers' Day in April. Indulge in an array of chocolate creations while visiting local businesses.
- Kids' Day takes over downtown Morgantown with more than 60 events including crafts, games, live entertainment and rides. Mark your calendar for July.
- In October take a self-guided tour of Morgantown's Arts and Entertainment district including galleries, live music and unique shops.



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## POINT PLEASANT

(304) 675-3844 • www.pointpleasantwv.org

*A small but vibrant river town, Point Pleasant is located at the confluence of the Ohio and Great Kanawha rivers.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Historical and recreational attractions include the Point Pleasant Riverfront Park, Krodel Park, Tu-Endie-Wei State Park, Fort Randolph, West Virginia Farm Museum and the Point Pleasant River Museum.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- The annual Battle Days Festival is celebrated in Point Pleasant during the first full weekend of each October. A commemoration of the October 1774 Battle of Point Pleasant, the festival features historical re-enactments, crafts, food, and fun for all ages.
- The annual Mothman Festival takes place in September each year. The event features live music, screenings of Mothman-related documentaries and films, vendors, crafters, a guest speakers' forum and tours of Mothman-related sites.



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## RIPLEY

(304) 372-1637 • www.mainstreetripley.org

*Located in the beautiful Appalachian foothills of the Ohio River Valley, Ripley is the county seat of Jackson County and home to 3,400 residents. As the "Heart of Hospitality," pedestrian-friendly Ripley offers personal service, friendly cafes and quaint shops.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- The town's historic courthouse square anchors downtown's antique shops, cafes and specialty shops. Ripley is home to the oldest independent furniture establishment in the United States, Vail Furniture which opened its doors in 1844.
- The historic and renovated Alpine Theater reopened to the public in 2006 after being closed for 25 years. A full year of arts events is planned.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Celebrate the largest small town Fourth of July celebration in the United States. Attended by more than 30,000 visitors each year, these celebrations began in 1877 and feature a "Two-Mile Fun Run" sponsored by Main Street Ripley, a patriotic parade, continuous live musical entertainment on the courthouse square, and an impressive fireworks display to top off the evening.
- The annual Mountain State Art and Craft Fair brings 20,000 visitors to town. The four-day event features 200 juried crafters, live entertainment and festival food. Located at Cedar Lakes, the fair is considered the "Granddaddy of all Fairs" in West Virginia.
- On Memorial Day weekend, the two-day "Ripley's On Sale" community-wide yard sale brings thousands to town to hunt for a special treasure among the 100 vendors who set up shop on the courthouse lawn and in Ripley's retail shops that offer special deals.
- On the second Saturday of August, "Ripley's Fun Day and Health Fair for Children" and the "Summertime in the City" events provide traditional games, story telling, balloon and sidewalk art and fun food for children of all ages. Hundreds of children and parents spend the day together as they share a three legged race or egg toss.
- September brings the Main Street Ripley "Antique Car Show." More than 100 motor vehicles roll down the highway that leads to a day full of entertainment and fun as car enthusiasts saunter through the displays of antique cars and watch as trophies go to the "best of show."



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## WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

(304) 536-5060 • www.wssmainstreet.org

*White Sulphur Springs has remained a popular resort destination since it was first developed as a health spa in the 1770s.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- White Sulphur Springs is home to The Greenbrier, one of the country's most luxurious and exclusive resorts.
- Located within the town is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Center engaged in world-class research of mussels and fish found in West Virginia rivers and streams.
- The town is home to Oakhurst Links, which dates back to 1884 and is the oldest established golf club in the United States.
- White Sulphur Springs is the gateway to the Monongahela National Forest, West Virginia's renowned outdoor playground.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- The Dandelion Festival occurs each Memorial Day weekend in celebration of the "determination and strength" of the dandelion. Activities include music, dancing, food, games, dandelion wine tasting and an art show. Contests include a fishing derby, hot dog eating contest, wild turkey calling contest and mud bog.
- The 1862 Battle of Dry Creek is reenacted the third weekend in August by the White Sulphur Springs Rifles. In Greenbrier State Forest, the event also includes a ladies tea, a dress parade, tactical, artillery live shoot and a Ball. For details, visit www.battleofdrycreek.com.
- The Fresh Water Folk Festival is held the first weekend in October each year at the Federal Fish Hatchery. The festival celebrates our nation's fish, wildlife and natural resources. The day includes music, dancing, activities and food. For more information, visit www.freshwaterfolkfestival.org.
- The Fall Fling also takes place the first weekend in October in coordination with the Fresh Water Folk Festival. Activities include music, dancing, food and multiple class reunions of White Sulphur Springs High School.



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## RONCEVERTE

(304) 647-3140 • www.roncevertewv.com

*This friendly, casual community along the Greenbrier River grew up around the clustered historic homes built by railroad and lumber workers during the latter 1800s and early 1900s.*

### ATTRACTIONS

- Incorporated in 1882, Ronceverte derived its name from the French "Ronce verte", which means "brier green." The town sits on the north bank of the Greenbrier River on US Route 219.
- Area attractions include Ronceverte Walking Tour, a historic walking tour highlighting the downtown and community area, including lovely gothic style churches and other unique buildings.

### SIGNATURE EVENTS

- Ronceverte River Festival in June features the Great Rubber Ducky Race and live musical entertainment. Other activities include both one mile and five mile fun runs, the "Fire on the River" Chili Cook-Off and the Grand Fireworks Finale.
- Riders of the Flood Outdoor Drama stages likable characters and family-appropriate stories based on history before an audience relaxing on the banks of the beautiful Greenbrier River. The plays are presented the first and second Thursday, Friday and Saturday of September.
- Since 1926, the Annual Christmas Parade has kicked off the holiday season in Ronceverte on the first Monday of December.



*Martinsburg, West Virginia*

## THE FOUR POINTS OF MAIN STREET

Main Street works to revitalize our downtowns. The program uses a Four-Point Approach<sup>®</sup> – organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring – which has succeeded in more than 2,000 communities nationwide. Main Street West Virginia provides design assistance and continuous training in the four-point approach for boards, committee members and program managers. The state program is in the Community Development Division of the West Virginia Development Office. The National Main Street Center is a program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

# West Virginia

## *Main Street*

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*Cover photos: Top - Ripley, W.Va.  
Bottom left - Mannington, W.Va | Bottom Right - Charleston East End, W.Va*