

Lewisburg and White Sulphur Springs Area

5.42

Two of West Virginia's oldest towns, a culture of creativity, the world-famous Greenbrier Resort, surrounded by a state and national forests.

Scenic - Greenbrier River

Natural – Greenbrier River, Lost World Caverns, and Organ Cave

Recreational - *Lewisburg*: Lewisburg Roadside Park and Lost World Caverns; *Caldwell*: Greenbrier River Bike Trail, canoeing and river access; *White Sulphur Springs*: Greenbrier State Forest, Federal Fish Hatchery, Oakhurst, and the Greenbrier Resort and Bunker; *Ronceverte*: Organ Cave

Historical – *Lewisburg*: North House Museum, Old Stone Presbyterian Church and Cemetery, Andrew Lewis Park, The General Lewis, Battle of Lewisburg Reenactment, The Wisteria Bed and Breakfast; *White Sulphur Springs*: Oakhurst, The Greenbrier Resort and Bunker, Battle of Dry Creek Reenactment, James Wylie House and Lillian's Bed and Breakfast *Caldwell*: Old Stone Manse Bed and Breakfast; *Ronceverte*: Organ Cave Civil War Days; *Lewisburg*: Lewisburg Cemetery (surrounds Old Stone Church), Confederate Cemetery

Cultural – *Lewisburg*: Carnegie Hall, WV State Fair, Battle of Lewisburg Reenactment, "one of the best small art towns in America," American Heritage Music Hall; *White Sulphur Springs*: The Greenbrier Hotel and Bunker, The Battle of Dry Creek Reenactment; *Ronceverte*: Organ Cave Civil War Days



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Chartered in 1782 by the Virginia Assembly, Lewisburg is one of the oldest towns in West Virginia. The town's old section is a National Register Historic District.

To get the flavor of Lewisburg begin with the two-hour Walking Tour of Downtown, which boasts more than sixty 18th- and 19th-Century buildings in a town that dates to 1774 and has both Revolutionary and Civil War history.

Lewisburg is a small town begging to be called home. The streets are lively and friendly. The shops quaint and inviting. Residents and travelers alike embrace the relaxed pace that offers respite from a more hurried, crowded world. Antiquities, culture, heritage, scenery, music, food, and recreation create a juxtaposition of both old and new in West Virginia.

The shops are platforms for artisans who work in canvas, wood, paper, cloth, metal, stone, culinary delights, and more.

Lewisburg has become a haven for West Virginians by choice, those who have fled larger cities for the benefits of simple living or who choose to stay where that influx adds to the culture of the area. Artists, photographers, writers, and chefs have made their way to Lewisburg and brought with them the trappings of a more cosmopolitan culture, such as galleries and live theater. All of this makes Lewisburg a fascinating place for a weekend or a longer stay. Unique food and civilized discourse abound.

The Taste of our Town (TOOT) Festival on the second Saturday in October offers a great opportunity to sample offerings from local restaurants. Little wonder that Lewisburg is one of only seventy U.S. towns included in *National Geographic's Guide to the Best Small Town Escapes* and is also distinguished in the book *The 100 Best Small Art Towns in America*.



White Sulphur Springs

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White Sulphur Springs

Since the 18th Century, the wealthy have flocked here to experience the legendary curative powers of the area's sulphur springs.

For two centuries the world-famous, luxurious Greenbrier Resort, has treated Trail travelers to the best in hospitality, featuring grand decor, thirty-plus lobby shops and three championship golf courses situated on 6500 acres in the Allegheny Mountains. Used as a military hospital in WWII, The Greenbrier became the site of a former top-secret Cold War-Era Congressional bunker buried some 720 feet into the hillside. The Bunker is now open for tours.

White Sulphur reenacts the 1862 Battle of Dry Creek, on the third weekend in August. Recreational offerings include Allegheny Trail,

White Sulphur Springs is home to a visitors center for the 800,000-acre Monongahela National Forest, as well as Sherwood Lake, a 164-acre lake offering boating, swimming, fishing, picnic facilities, and camping.

Nearby, the Greenbrier State Forest offers hiking, picnic facilities, rustic cabins, swimming, hunting, camping, and scenic overlooks on its 5130 acres. Each year, Greenbrier State Forest hosts a weekend reenactment of the Battle of Dry Creek the third week in August. The weekend includes maneuvers, an actual battle reenactment, and settlement camps.

The area's U.S. Federal Fish Hatchery offers a self-guided tour of the facility, which produces 10 million trout eggs annually for shipment to other hatcheries.

Oakhurst Links, established in 1884 by a Scottish family, was the first established golf club in the United States. Visitors today can golf the original course using replica wooden equipment. Sheep groom the grounds.

Ronceverte's Organ Cave celebrates its Civil War history in late July-early August. The large entrance room of the cave provided shelter for many Confederate soldiers. It was large enough to hold religious services for 1100 of General Robert E. Lee's men. The cave also was an important source of saltpeter, a necessary ingredient in gunpowder.

