

Scenic

Wayne

1. *Kenova*: Virginia Point Park and Juncture of Big Sandy and Ohio Rivers

Cabell

2. *Huntington*: Harris Riverfront Park, Guyandotte Riverfront Park, and View of Ohio River along Byway

Kanawha

3. *St. Albans*: Views of Kanawha River from Roadside Parks

4. Views of Kanawha River at the Capitol and along Kanawha Boulevard

5. Views of Kanawha River and Mountains at pull-offs in Upper Kanawha Valley

Fayette

6. View of nine-plus roadside waterfalls at Kanawha Falls, Glen Ferris and Gauley Bridge

7. Merging of New and Gauley Rivers

8. Scenic Overlook on Gauley Mountain into the New River Gorge

9. Hawks Nest Overlook and New River Gorge

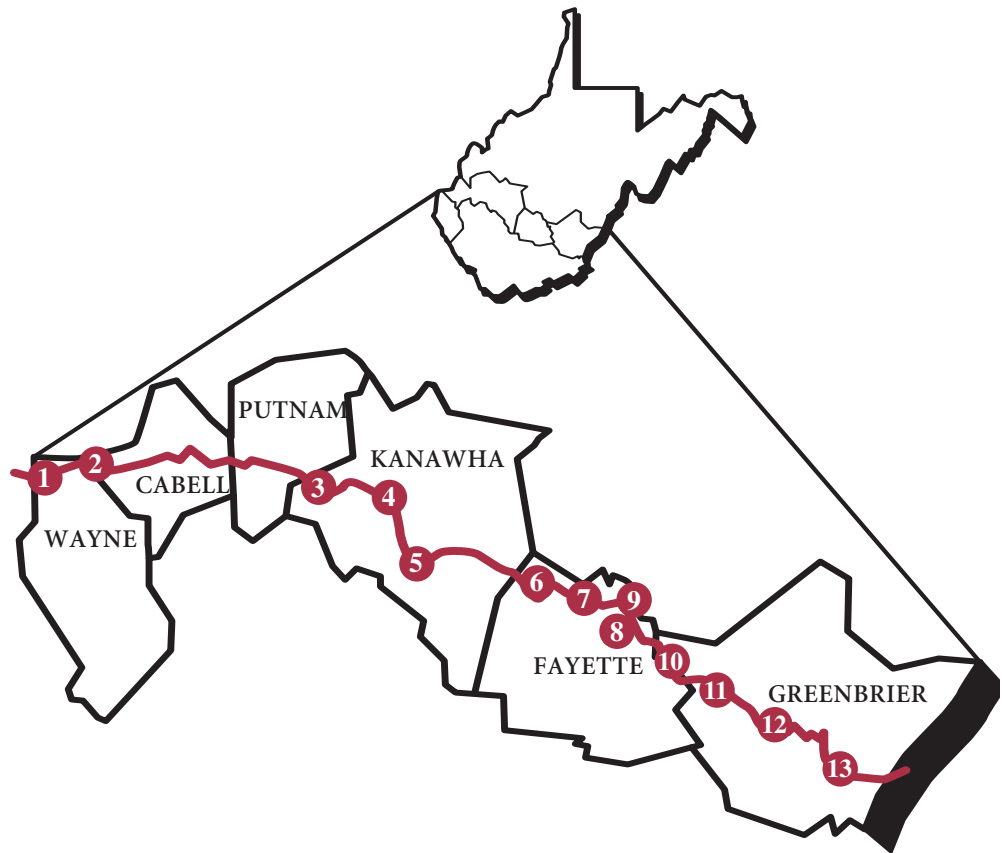
10. Big Sewell Mountain Overlook

Greenbrier

11. Big Sewell Mountain Eastern Slope

12. Greenbrier Valley-Big Levels

13. Greenbrier River at U.S. 60 and Camp Shaw-Mi-Del-Eca (direct access to Greenbrier Bike Trail and River)



Scenic Qualities

Along The Midland Trail

“Twenty-one Centuries of exploration, conquest, American industrial history.”

Listen closely, and you will hear the echoes of the past. The footfalls of hooves. The creaks of wagon wheels. Feet marching in cadence to the drumbeat of war. Steam whistles and chugs of locomotives.

Scenic qualities involve the heightened visual experience derived from the view of natural and/or man made elements of the visual environment of the Byway corridor. The characteristics of the landscape are strikingly distinct and offer a pleasing and most memorable visual experience. All elements of the landscape ---- landform, water, vegetation, and man made development ---- may contribute to the quality of these corridor’s visual environment. Everything present is in harmony and shares in the intrinsic qualities.

We Have It All! - Scenic vistas, rolling pastures, mountain cliffs, waterfalls, fishing streams, idyllic forests and woods....



Beautiful Virginia Point Park in Kenova is situated at the western-most point of the Midland Trail and is located at the confluence of the Big Sandy and Ohio Rivers. The park's scenic qualities are enhanced by its recreational facilities; soccer fields, softball field, camping hook-ups, and gazebo/shelter.

Huntington is a beautifully designed city situated on the banks of the Ohio River. It began as the dream of railroad magnate, Collis P. Huntington during the industrial revolution. Huntington needed a town to serve as a terminus between the East Coast and Midwest rail lines and the city was born. Fabulous scenic views of the Ohio River can be found at Harris Riverfront Park.

Route 60 hugs the Kanawha River through St. Albans offering beautiful scenic views, especially at St. Albans Roadside Park, which offers a playground, picnic facilities, and a boat ramp.

Charleston, the western bookend of the National Scenic Byway portion of the Trail, began with thirteen houses and a fort, and became West Virginia's largest city, its state capital, and a capital for arts, industry, shopping, and entertainment.



The mountains close around the Kanawha River in the Kanawha Valley, making for postcard-like scenery at the West Virginia State Capitol.

Route 60 continues to follow the scenic Kanawha River Valley through the small communities of eastern Kanawha County.

The heart of the Trail's eye-popping scenic vistas begins in Fayette County. Numerous roadside falls dot the highway, including Kanawha Falls in Glen Ferris and Cathedral Falls, between Gauley Bridge and Ansted.

The New and Gauley Rivers merge at Gauley Bridge to create the Kanawha River, which flows to the State Capitol and eventually into the Ohio River.

The town of Ansted is perched in a fold atop Gauley Mountain. Hawks Nest State Park, which is inside the town limits, sprawls over the top of the mountain and down to the base of the New River Gorge. Visitors can experience waterfalls, moss-covered rocks and a peaceful forest setting on the spectacular Ansted-Hawks Nest Rail Trail, which



follows the old coal train path between the bottom of the New River Gorge to the hilltop town of Ansted. The Hawks Nest Overlook offers a breathtaking overlook of the “Grand Canyon of the East,” the New River Gorge.

East of Hico, the Midland Trail curves through some of the most beautiful scenery in our country as it crosses the highest point on the Trail – Big Sewell Mountain at 3170 feet. The road from Lookout to Winona now extends to the New River and travels through a beautiful, pristine forest. Babcock State Park in Clifftop is also remarkable for its scenic and natural qualities. Two varieties of rhododendron and other wildflowers provide a colorful display on the hillsides in spring through early summer.

Rugged mountains in the west and savannah-like farms in the east mark the dramatic topography of Greenbrier County. The town of Rainelle strides the two areas.

Scenic views are plentiful, as are opportunities to enjoy the natural qualities of the area. Creeks, such as Big and Little Clear Creeks, rolling pasture land, limestone topography, and flowing streams dictate the scenic qualities in this area.

