

Eastern Kentucky and Ralph Stanley Museum Tour Featuring Coal Miner's Daughter Movie Sites

This is an example itinerary based on a previously successful trip. Pricing subject to change.

Day 1



4:15 PM – Overlook Tour

- Begin your journey with a scenic overlook tour. This complimentary experience provides breathtaking views of the surrounding landscape.

5:15 PM – Check-in with Concierge Baggage Service

- Upon arrival, guests will check in with the concierge for convenient baggage handling.

6:30 PM – Dinner at Breaks Interstate Park

- Enjoy a relaxing dinner at Breaks Interstate Park, soaking in the natural beauty.

7:00 PM – Live Music Sponsored by Pike County Tourism

- Experience 75 minutes of live music, showcasing the region's rich musical heritage.

Day 2



7:00 AM – Breakfast

8:00 AM – Depart for Big Sandy Heritage Museum, Pikeville

8:45 AM – Arrive at Big Sandy Heritage Museum

- Explore exhibits that chronicle the history of Eastern Kentucky's Big Sandy Region. Highlights include moonshine displays, musical traditions, early 1900s wood tools, the Hatfield and McCoy feud, the Big Sandy River, coal mining history, the Cut-

Through Project, and artifacts from Native American life spanning 700 years. Additional exhibits cover Civil War history and regional quilt-making traditions.

9:45 AM – Depart for Hatfield and McCoy Historic Sites

10:15 AM – Arrive at the McCoy Well Site (Meet Historian)

- Visit the former home of Randolph McCoy, leader of the McCoy clan. This site, marked by tragic events on New Year's Day 1888, offers a chance to drink from the historic hand-dug McCoy Well and take photos with an eight-foot hand-carved statue of Randolph McCoy. The property, now owned by a Hatfield descendant, features unique memorabilia and relics from the famed feud, including bullets and charred wood preserved at the Big Sandy Heritage Center. Group photos are encouraged at this location.



10:45 AM – Depart for the Historic Hog Trial Site

- The site of the infamous Hog Trial and the stabbing of Ellison Hatfield, this historic cabin saw significant moments in the Hatfield-McCoy feud. It was here in 1878 that Randolph McCoy accused Floyd Hatfield of stealing a pig, leading to a consequential trial. The cabin also witnessed the beginning of an illicit romance and subsequent violence. The original foundation remains, and the cement steps still bear the footprints of Preacher Anse's grandchildren.

11:45 AM – Lunch Buffet at Southside Steak House

- Enjoy a buffet featuring two meats, two sides, a salad bar, dessert, and a drink. The cost is \$19.45, including tax and tip.

1:00 PM – Depart for Historic Williamson Coal House

1:10 PM – Arrive at the Historic Williamson Coal House

- Discover this unique building constructed entirely of coal masonry, using 65 tons of locally quarried bituminous coal. Once a publicity stunt to symbolize the "Billion Dollar Coalfield," the Coal House now serves as the Tug Valley Chamber of Commerce. It has endured a major fire and was restored in 2011, preserving its historical significance.

1:30 PM – Depart for Matewan with Historian

- En route, pass by Aunt Betty's homestead, Rosanna McCoy's baby's burial site, and other notable feud-related landmarks. No additional fee is required.

2:00 PM – Arrive in Matewan, WV

- Park and enjoy free time to explore the museums, shops, and historic atmosphere of this coal camp town. The regular passage of coal trains adds to the authentic experience. Notable attractions include:
 - Matewan Train Depot Replica Museum: View artifacts and information about the Hatfield/McCoy Feud and the Matewan Massacre. The museum also serves as a welcome center and gift shop. Admission is free.
 - West Virginia Mine Wars Museum: Located at 336 Mate Street, this museum interprets the history of the West Virginia Mine Wars, including the Paint Creek-Cabin Creek Strike, the Matewan Massacre, the Miners' March, and the Battle of Blair Mountain. It houses the largest exhibited collection of Mine Wars Era artifacts. Admission is \$5 per person.
 - Appalachian Lost and Found Artisan Shop: Shop a vast selection of home kitchen-made pickled products using family recipes passed down through generations.
 - Downtown Matewan Shops: Enjoy a complimentary \$5 treat at Wingo's ice cream shop.

3:30 PM – Depart for Breaks Interstate Park

4:30 PM – Arrive at Breaks Interstate Park

- Enjoy a 60-minute break. Restrooms are available.

5:30 PM – Breaks Elk Tour

- Participate in an elk viewing tour, including a meal. Cost is \$35 per person.

8:00 PM – Return to Breaks Lodging

Day 3

8:00 AM – Depart Breaks Interstate Park

8:45 AM – Ralph Stanley Museum Tour

- Allocate at least 1.5 to 2 hours for a comprehensive tour and activities. Options include hands-on instrument sessions, Banjo Bingo, “Name that Instrument,” and other lessons tailored to your group.



10:30 AM – Music Lesson/Workshop & Banjo Bingo

11:45 AM – Lunch with Live Entertainment

- Enjoy a Bluegrass legends lunch featuring vegetable soup, your choice of chicken salad or ham salad sandwich, chips, a cookie, and a drink, accompanied by live music and interactive activities.

1:00 PM – Depart for Whitesburg, KY

1:30 PM – Pine Mountain Overlook

- Take in the stunning fall foliage and capture group and couple photos at this scenic spot. This stop is free of charge.



2:15 PM – Visit Historic Filming Locations from Coal Miner's Daughter

- Tour notable sites from the film, including the railroad, old post office, general store, and church. No fee is required.

3:30 PM – Kentucky Mist Distillery Tour and Tasting

- Participate in a distillery tour and tasting session for \$15 per person.

5:30 PM – Pine Mountain Grill Restaurant and Gifts

- Take a short break to freshen up and shop for 30 minutes.

6:00 PM – Buffet Dinner at Pine Mountain Restaurant (Private Room)

- Savor a buffet dinner featuring grilled chicken on rice, Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, peas, dessert, and drinks. The \$21.50 fee includes tax, tip, and live music.

7:45 PM – Depart for Breaks Interstate Park

8:30 PM – Arrive at Breaks Lodging

Day 4

7:30 AM – Bags Out & Breakfast

- Begin the day by placing your bags out for collection and enjoying breakfast.

8:45 AM – Group Departure

9:30 AM – Arrive in Pikeville, KY

- Tour the Pikeville Cut-Through Project, an impressive engineering accomplishment that rerouted the river and created Pikeville Lake. Learn about WPA-era projects like Pauley Bridge and discover how the landscape was transformed to form Cassady Blvd Pikeville Commons. There is no fee for this tour.

10:30 AM – Pikeville Cut-Through Project Overlook Tour

- Enjoy panoramic views and interpretive information free of charge.

11:10 AM – Wash Up

11:30 AM – Lunch at Pikeville Overlook Event Center

- Relish a meal of Italian baked lasagna, salad, breadsticks, cheesecake, water, iced tea, lemonade, and coffee. The \$21.95 fee includes live local music sponsored by the Pikeville-Pike County Welcome Center.

Destination Highlight: The Grand Canyon of the South – Breaks Interstate Park 2025

Breaks Interstate Park, often called the "Grand Canyon of the South," is a bi-state park located in southeastern Kentucky and southwestern Virginia within the Jefferson National Forest. Rather than being managed by separate state park systems, it is jointly administered by Virginia and Kentucky under an interstate compact, making it one of only two such parks in the United States. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Kentucky Department of Parks are major partners in its operation.

The park's history dates back 180 million years, when the area was a vast inland sea. Over millions of years, the Russell Fork River carved through the rock, creating the awe-inspiring valleys we see today. The land was once used as hunting grounds by the Shawnee and Cherokee peoples. In 1767, Daniel Boone traversed the region, seeking a passage through Pine Mountain, and named the area "The Breaks."

Recent developments include elk viewing areas, with elk sightings near the park in 2023 for the first time since the 1800s.

Geographically, Breaks Interstate Park is situated about five miles east of Elkhorn City, Kentucky, and covers 4,500 acres. Its main feature, Breaks Canyon, extends five miles and ranges from 830 to 1,600 feet deep. The canyon, formed by the Russell Fork River through millions of years of erosion, is the largest canyon east of the Mississippi River.

The park offers over 13 miles of interconnected hiking trails, each typically less than a mile long. The Breaks Welcome Center provides a 30-minute tour of the Grand Canyon of the South overlook, with interpretive segments on the region's plant and animal life led by park rangers. This natural wonder, just 35 minutes from Pikeville City on the Kentucky/Virginia state line, is renowned for its outdoor adventures and unforgettable nature experiences. A group photo at the overlook is recommended to commemorate your visit.