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■ Pennsylvania Route 66 to Kane *I-80 to the ANF*

Approaching from the west on **Interstate 80**, take **Route 66** north exit to the Allegheny National Forest (ANF) and Kane, the heart of the world's finest hardwood forest.

This route into the Allegheny National Forest passes close to Cook Forest State Park, location of the finest strand of ancient timber in Pennsylvania, including the third tallest tree in the eastern United States. Several state record trees are in this park. Turn right onto **Route 36** at Leeper and drive about six miles to park headquarters.

Approaching Marienville on **Route 66**, you can see the true plateau nature of the Allegheny Highlands. Here, miles from the major creeks and rivers, the terrain is gently rolling.



The southern trailhead for the 96-mile section of the North Country National Scenic Trail, which passes through the ANF, is about two miles to the left along **Route 3005**, Muzette Road, at the village of Roses. This section of the trail ends just west from Bradford. The entire North Country Trail, when complete, will be the longest continuous foot path in the United States, about 4,600 miles from Crown Point, N.Y., to Lake Sakakawea, N.D.

Traveling through a beautiful forest dominated by hardwood forest will bring you to the village of Kane. A local favorite restaurant is Texas Hot Lunch-4 Sons – ask for their signature “Texas Hot.” Taste and sample the local food scene at Bell’s Meat & Poultry – an old fashioned grocery store, The Sweet Shoppe, Flickerwood Wine Cellars and CJ’s Spirits – a craft distillery, and maybe you will even find Bigfoot.



Longhouse National Scenic Byway

The Longhouse National Scenic Byway circles the Kinzua Creek Arm of the Allegheny Reservoir through some of the most beautiful scenery on the Allegheny National Forest. It is a 36-mile loop from Kane.

Leave Kane on **Route 321 North**. This road enters the Allegheny National Forest just outside of Kane. The actual start of the scenic byway is about eight miles from Kane at the intersection with Longhouse Drive. Continue on **Route 321** past Red Bridge. This is the head of the Kinzua Creek Arm. A campground, cabins and bank fishing are to the left.

Route 321 follows the reservoir for a short distance, and then begins to rise into the highlands through a beautiful forest of hardwoods and hemlock. Nearing the top of the plateau, you pass the Old Powerhouse Museum, an original timepiece from the glory days of oil in this region.

The Bradford Ranger Station is located at the intersection of **Routes 321** and **59**. You can find virtually any information about the Allegheny National Forest here, including topo maps for trail enthusiasts.

Turn left on **Route 59** toward the Allegheny Reservoir. Along this stretch of the loop, you pass the trailhead for Morrison Trail. This trail has two loops, the 5.3-mile Morrison Trail Loop which passes boulder fields and forgotten homesteads, and the 8.3-mile Rimrock Trail Loop, which drops to the shore of the Allegheny Reservoir.

About a mile past the Morrison Trailhead is the entrance to Rimrock, a magnificent rock outcrop and overlook above the Kinzua Creek Arm of the Allegheny Reservoir. This area offers picnic areas and hiking trails.



As you go on **Route 59**, you will see the Kinzua/Wolf Run Marina on your right, just before crossing the Allegheny Reservoir on the Morrison Bridge. Immediately past the bridge, turn left onto Longhouse Drive. The access road to Jakes Rocks is about a mile up Longhouse Drive. This impressive rock outcrop offers a spectacular vista over the Allegheny Reservoir.

Longhouse Drive continues a winding course high above the Kinzua Creek Arm, passing the Dewdrop Recreation Area, Elijah Run Boat launch and Kiasutha Recreation Area before ending back at **Route 321**. Turn right to return to Kane.

■ Eastern Continental Divide Loop *Smethport, Emporium, Sizerville, Port Allegany*



A loop from Smethport through Emporium, Sizerville and Port Allegany passes through some of the most rugged terrain in the Allegheny Highlands and the Pennsylvania elk range.

Start this loop by heading east from Smethport on **Route 6**, then turn south onto **Route 46** in East Smethport. For the first few miles, this road follows Potato Creek, which flows northward into the Allegheny River and eventually into the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers.

Close to the McKean County/Cameron County border, in State Game Land No. 30, you crest the Eastern Continental Divide. You can see the land dropping very steeply ahead. Past here, streams flow southward and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean by way of the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay.

Turn left onto **Route 120 East** into Emporium, and then at the east side of Emporium, turn left again onto **Route 155 North**. In this area, you are on the edge of the Pennsylvania elk range.

Plan a side trip to the Elk Country Visitors Center by taking **Route 120** past **Route 155**, then west on **Route 555** at Driftwood to Benezette. The elk center offers interpretive displays and an outdoor wildlife observation area.

Heading north on **Route 155**, you pass Sizerville State Park about seven miles from Emporium. This is an excellent area for viewing mountain laurel and wildflowers during the spring and summer, and flaming foliage during the fall. Majestic white pines in the park were planted during the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps to replace trees cut during the logging boom. There are four hiking trails in the park, one of which climbs a 1,900-foot slope.

The East Branch of Cowley Run, which flows through the park, was the site of the first reintroduction of beavers to Pennsylvania after they had been eliminated by the early settlers. **Route 155** continues north over the Eastern Continental Divide to Port Allegany, site of Serenity Glass Park, an artistic gem. Then turn left onto **Route 6** and return to Victorian Smethport.



■ Tracy Ridge Loop

NY I-86, Route 219, Route 321, Route 346



Follow **Route 219 South** from **Interstate 86** to Bradford for the start of the 39.5-mile loop through the highest and most remote land in the Allegheny National Forest. Drive this loop evenings or early mornings for the best opportunities to observe white-tailed deer, wild turkeys, porcupines or even black bears and coyotes.

Exit from **Route 219** at Bradford onto **Route 346 West**. Route markers will direct you along Main Street, Mechanic Street, then out of town on West Washington Street, past the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford campus.

About six miles off **Route 219**, you pass the Marilla Reservoir. This picturesque reservoir area features a wooden covered bridge, a series of

interconnecting hiking trails, and is a favorite spot for kayaking and fishing – it is generously stocked.

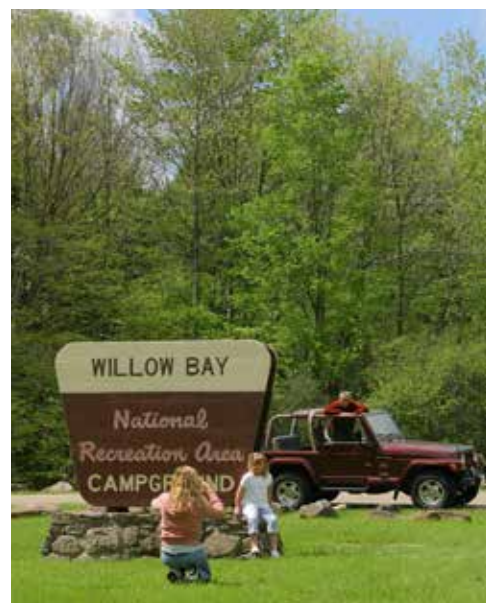
You enter the Allegheny National Forest about 8.5 miles into this drive. Turn left onto **Route 321** about 5.5 miles farther. If you were to stay on **Route 346**, it would take you to the Willow Bay Recreation Area on the shore of the Allegheny Reservoir. This area has rustic cabins, campgrounds, picnic areas, boat rentals and a boat launch ramp.

Route 321 starts rising immediately toward the top of the plateau. After driving about three miles and climbing about 700 feet in elevation, you arrive at Tracy Ridge. A large meadow is an excellent place to watch for deer. Just past this meadow is the entrance to Tracy Ridge Recreation Area. Here you will find a campground and trailheads.

Past Tracy Ridge, **Route 321** drops to the head of Sugar Bay, then climbs again to a junction with **Route 59**. Turn left on **Route 59** toward Bradford. This part of the loop will give you the best view that the Allegheny Highlands is actually a plateau. In most other areas, the land is so deeply eroded that it has the appearance of hills.

The trailhead for Timberdoodle Flats is located along the right-hand side of **Route 59**. Timberdoodle Flats features two loop trails totaling 1.5 miles. There's the Woodcock Trail with 12 interpretive stops or the shorter gravel surfaced Bluebird Trail with six interpretive stops. The Bluebird Trail is suitable for strollers, wheelchairs or walking assistance equipment.

Turn left onto **Route 770**. Soon after passing Pine Acres Golf Course, the road goes into a long decline toward **Route 219** at Custer City. Turn left on **Route 219** to return to Bradford.



Bradford–Eldred–Rock City Loop

NY I-86, Route 219, Route 321, Route 346

The 48-mile loop takes you to a World War II museum and a spectacular rock formation. Starting in downtown Bradford, take **Route 346 East**. Exit at Foster Brook, staying on **Route 346 East**. Just before entering Eldred, watch for the Old Schoolhouse Village Shoppes – a great shopping destination.



Route 346 ends at a "T" intersection with **Route 446**. Turn right into Eldred. The Eldred World War II Museum is on the right.

This world class museum is history you can see, touch and feel. Allow at least two hours to tour the museum. It is open 10 am to 4 pm Tuesday through Saturday, 1 to 4 pm Sunday.

After visiting the museum, turn back onto **Route 446**, heading north to Olean, N.Y. You cross into New York 21.5 miles from Bradford. The highway destination changes to **Route 305**. As you pass through Portville, N.Y., look for the dikes to your left. These hold back the floodwaters of the Allegheny River. Turn left at the "T" intersection in Portville, staying on **Route 305** to the opposite side of town then go straight onto **Route 417** into Olean.



In Olean, two recommended sites to visit are Cutco-KaBar Visitors Center and Good Times of Olean. In downtown Olean, turn left onto **Route 16**, which makes a steep climb to Rock City Park, 35.6 miles from the start. An admission fee will give you

access to an amazing vista and trail which winds through a field of gigantic boulders formed about 320 million years ago. Rock City Park is open daily May 1 through October 31.

Continue along **Route 16** about two miles to a historical marker by the Knapp Creek Fire Hall which notes that this quiet little village was once an oil boom town that supported at least a dozen saloons, and that this was the birthplace of aviation pioneer William T. Piper.

Past Knapp Creek, **Route 16** follows the top of the narrow ridge into Pennsylvania, where the road designation changes to **Route 646**, then goes into a steep drop to **Route 346**. Turn right at the intersection and follow **Route 346** back to Bradford.





■ Allegheny Highlands

Touring on Scenic Route 6

Perfect for touring by car, motorbike or RV. **Route 6** is the major west-east corridor through the northern counties of Pennsylvania. Visitors from the west can get onto **Route 6** from the first Interstate 90 exit in Pennsylvania or from Erie by way of **Route 19** or **Route 79**.

As you travel through the gentle rolling farmlands of western Pennsylvania, the terrain changes to increasingly rugged hills. You are entering the Allegheny Highlands with elevations of more than 2,040 feet above sea level. Trees practically swallow the highway as it winds higher in elevation. The world's finest hardwoods are grown in this area.

Just before Ludlow, watch for signs on the right that lead to the Tionesta National Scenic Area. This is the largest strand of ancient trees on the Allegheny National Forest. Bring your hiking boots! Nearby, the labyrinth of Olmsted Manor and the waterfall at Hector Falls offer lovely diversions.

Continuing east on **Route 6**, plan to tour and taste: in Sheffield, sample wines at Allegheny Cellars Winery; in Kane, CJ Spirits Craft Distillery and Flickerwood Wine Cellars both offer tasting rooms and tours. ArtWorks at the Depot is located in a historic railroad depot; The Sweet Shoppe and Bell's Meat & Poultry are great stops for foodies.

Traveling east on **Route 6** you will pass the historic Nebo Chapel before entering Mt. Jewett. Stop at Kaffee Sol for a sampling of Swedish pastries. From Mt. Jewett, take an interesting four-mile side trip on the Kinzua Bridge Scenic Byway to the Kinzua Bridge State Park to "Walk the Tracks Across the Sky" - the Kinzua Sky Walk. Enjoy stunning views of the Kinzua Gorge from the skywalk. The new family friendly Kinzua Bridge Visitors Center is open year round. The park offers nature programs, picnic areas, hiking trails, and a park pavilion.

Return to **Route 6**, travel east to the Victorian village of Smethport. Here you can stroll the streets lined with mansions built in the 1800s by lumber barons. You may pick up a free copy of the self-guided Smethport Mansion District Walking Tour at the kiosk in front of the McKean County Courthouse. Hamlin

Lake and a variety of trails offer a chance to enjoy the outdoors. Visit the Old Jail Museum to learn about the famous American Civil War Regiment-the Bucktails!

Heading east your next stop is Port Allegany. You can kayak or canoe on the Allegheny River, visit the Serenity Glass Park, and in the summer, free musical concerts are offered on the square. If you continue traveling along **Route 6** your next stops can be the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum and the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon.



■ Southeast Gateway

Into Nature's Beauty

I-80 Exit at Penfield, Route 153, Route 219, South to North

As you exit from **I-80** onto **Route 153 North** you are just approaching the highest point on **I-80** east of the Mississippi River. It is an appropriate start for your journey to the Allegheny National Forest. Immediately to your south, the land drops into the northern tip of the Allegheny Mountains. Driving northward, you will be climbing into the heart of the Allegheny Highlands.

Soon after exiting off **I-80**, you pass S.B. Elliott State Park on the right, a few miles farther along **Route 153**, you pass the access road to Parker Dam State Park. This is part of the Elk Scenic Byway and the southwest corner of the Pennsylvania elk range.

After dropping into a steep valley at Penfield, you begin climbing again over Boone Mountain, then dropping to the intersection with **Route 219**. Turn right and head north to Ridgway.

The highway skirts along the eastern edge of the Allegheny National Forest near Wilcox, home of the Winery at Wilcox. **Route 219** then crosses into the Allegheny National Forest just past Lantz Corners. In Lantz Corners, enjoy a meal at the Barrel House Restaurant, and rent an ATV, UTV or snowmobile from the folks at Myers Motorsports.



At Tallyho you cross over Kinzua Creek, one of the favorite trout streams in the region and the second-largest tributary to the Allegheny Reservoir. Just downstream is a Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only special trout regulations area. It stretches 2.3 miles from **Route 219** at Tallyho downstream to Camp Run providing better-than-average trout fishing. Turn west onto Westline Road and travel 3 miles along Kinzua Creek to access the trailhead for the Kinzua Valley Trail system near Westline Inn.

Return to, and continue north, **Route 219** becomes a four-lane highway just before arriving at Bradford. Watch for the world famous Zippo/Case Museum on your left. It is easy to find by taking the Elm Street exit.



The City of Bradford is your gateway to the eastern shore of the Allegheny Reservoir, Marilla Reservoir and the Marilla Trail System. Other sites to explore are the Penn Brad Oil Museum, the Marilyn Horne Museum, the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, and the nearby Allegany State Park in New York.