

Relaxed Days,
Appalachian Ways

 putnam
county





Almost Heaven Swing at Valley Park



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Welcome to Putnam County

In the heart of West Virginia's Metro Valley, Putnam County combines the appeal of a small town with a gracious welcome. Discover a collection of family-friendly activities, a vibrant local culinary landscape, and abundant opportunities for outdoor recreation just minutes from comfortable amenities.

Situated just moments away from the downtown areas of Huntington and Charleston, Putnam County offers an ideal blend of a serene getaway with easy access to West Virginia's largest cities. Whether you're seeking relaxation, a family getaway, or outdoor adventures, Putnam County invites you with open arms.

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Scan here to watch the story
of how Meeks Mountain
Trails was built.

Every Mile Tells A Story

Just one mile off I-64 in Hurricane, West Virginia, adventure awaits on more than 34 miles of trails at Meeks Mountain Trails—perfect for hiking, running, and mountain biking.

Born from a vision by a community member and brought to life by more than 600 volunteers donating 35,000 hours, this community-built trail system is designed with everyone in mind. Featuring smooth “flow” built into every twist and turn, the trails are welcoming for beginners yet still challenging for seasoned outdoor enthusiasts.

Brandon Doerner, founder and president of the Meeks Mountain Trail Alliance, explains, “The flow works extremely well, not only for a mountain bike, but for a hiker and runner,” Doerner says.

“If you had somebody design it who was just a hiker and had never been on a bike, the flow may be a lot different, and it may not be rideable.

It’s important we had somebody from the mountain bike design scene lay this thing out; the flow was very important for all users.”

And while an expansive trail system in the middle of West Virginia’s Metro Valley might be a surprise, the trails’ origin is even more unexpected.

“This has all been developed by volunteers; by a family that was willing to allow us to study and build this thing; a city that supports it; and the companies throughout the community that have gathered around it to help promote it,” Doerner says.

With each trail named after a volunteer who has spent at least 100 volunteer hours building and maintaining the system, every mile tells a story.

The network features everything from family-friendly loops to steep climbs and rock formations.

And it's not just about the terrain—Meeks Mountain Trails hosts races like the Hurricane 100K and various educational hikes.

Doerner says he wants people to understand the trail system isn't too difficult to try. The trail system can be a challenge if users want, or they can be just a nice walk in the woods—an escape into nature.

“I want folks to understand the beauty of it too, that they're going to see diversity out there and appreciate the beauty the state has to offer,” he says.

“They're going to get to see pretty much every species of hardwood that West Virginia has to offer.

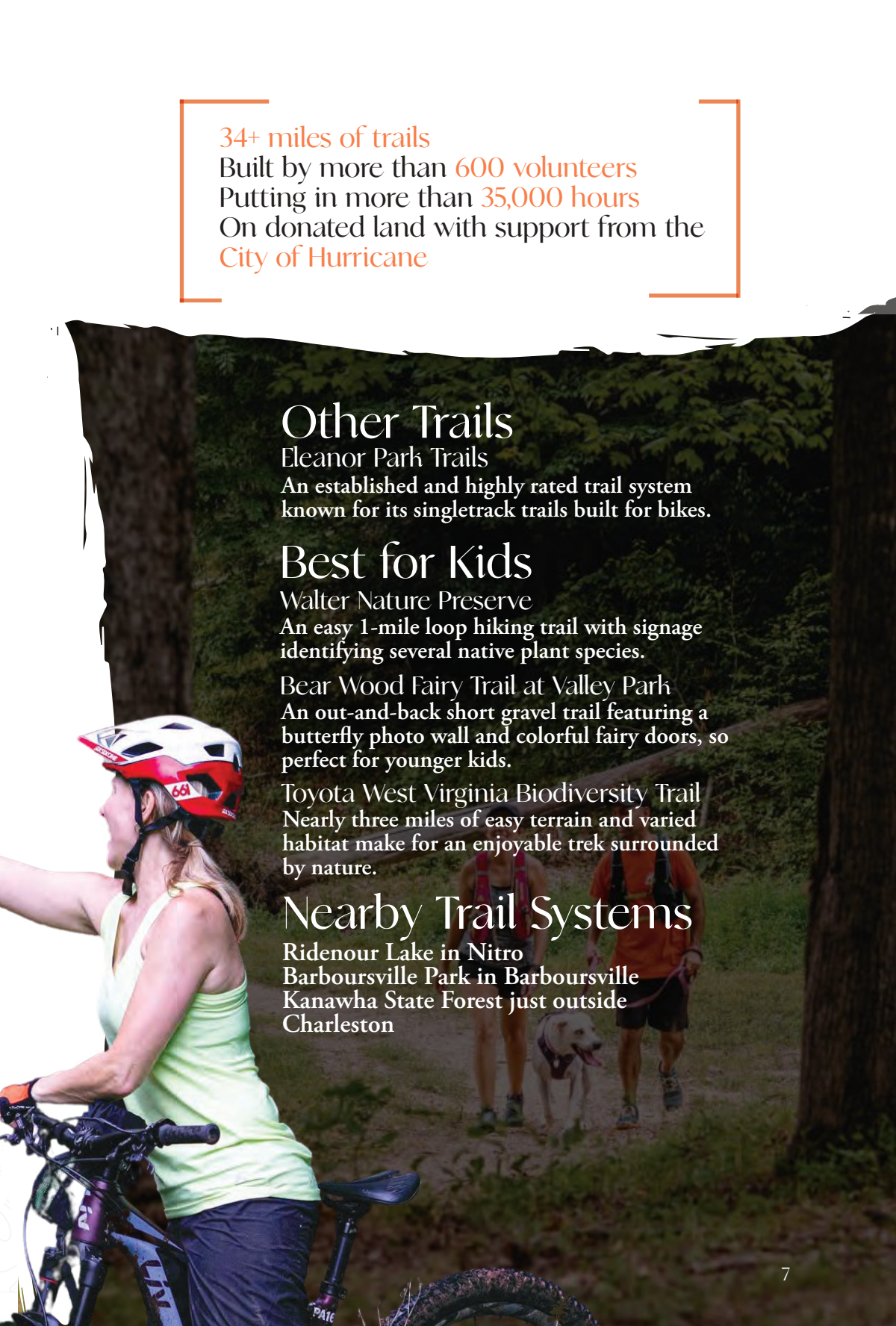
They're going to get to see some wildlife out there, and they get the experience of being close to home, yet feeling far away.”

Whether you're here to explore, train, or just breathe in the mountain air, Meeks Mountain Trails is a shining example of what a community can create—and share with the world.



Plan your outdoor
adventure in
#PutnamWV





34+ miles of trails

Built by more than 600 volunteers

Putting in more than 35,000 hours

On donated land with support from the
City of Hurricane

Other Trails

Eleanor Park Trails

An established and highly rated trail system known for its singletrack trails built for bikes.

Best for Kids

Walter Nature Preserve

An easy 1-mile loop hiking trail with signage identifying several native plant species.

Bear Wood Fairy Trail at Valley Park

An out-and-back short gravel trail featuring a butterfly photo wall and colorful fairy doors, so perfect for younger kids.

Toyota West Virginia Biodiversity Trail

Nearly three miles of easy terrain and varied habitat make for an enjoyable trek surrounded by nature.

Nearby Trail Systems

Ridenour Lake in Nitro

Barboursville Park in Barboursville

Kanawha State Forest just outside
Charleston



Family Fun in Putnam County, WV

Whether you're planning a full day of play or just looking to fill a few leisure hours, Putnam County is packed with unique, family-friendly experiences that might just surprise you.

Gritt's Farm

Well known for its six-week Fall Festival and Fun Farm, Gritt's Farm offers year-round fun and fresh events with a warm, local feel. Gritt's has also added a spring tulip festival, featuring more than 100,000 blooms.

Located in Buffalo and family-owned since 1927, Gritt's has grown into a beloved destination packed with more than 30 kid-friendly attractions, including a pumpkin patch, corn maze, animal encounters, and giant slides.

In spring, they host planting workshops, monthly farm-to-table

dinners, and other seasonal events throughout the year.

Thousands of visitors from across the country come to enjoy the creativity and evolving charm of the farm. Stay updated at @GrittsFarm on social media.

Zoology Zone Science Center

Located in Hurricane's Valley Park, Zoology Zone is home to over 100 rescued reptiles and amphibians and offers a hands-on, inclusive learning experience for all ages. With field trips, toddler programs, birthday parties, and sensory-sensitive hours, there's always something exciting happening.

The center focuses on immersive education and wildlife conservation, creating a fun, memorable way to learn about animals.

Visit their website or follow @ZoologyZoneWV for hours and event updates.

Winfield Riding Club

The Winfield Riding Club is a hub for equestrian events, hosting competitions for organizations like the WV Quarter Horse Association and the WV High School Rodeo Association. Many events are open to the public, and spectators are always welcome.

Set on over 20 acres, the venue features both indoor and covered arenas, making it a great place for horse lovers to gather. Events take place from spring through fall.

Find details at wvqhafuturities.com/wvqha-shows or follow @WinfieldRidingClub.

The Pottery Place

The Pottery Place in Hurricane is a go-to spot for creative fun. Whether you're celebrating a birthday, enjoying a date night, or just stopping by to unwind, visitors can paint mugs, plates, seasonal pieces, and more.

Drop in anytime or book space for a group in their party section. With a wide selection of colors and designs,

it's the perfect spot to express your artistic side and create memorable keepsakes.

Follow

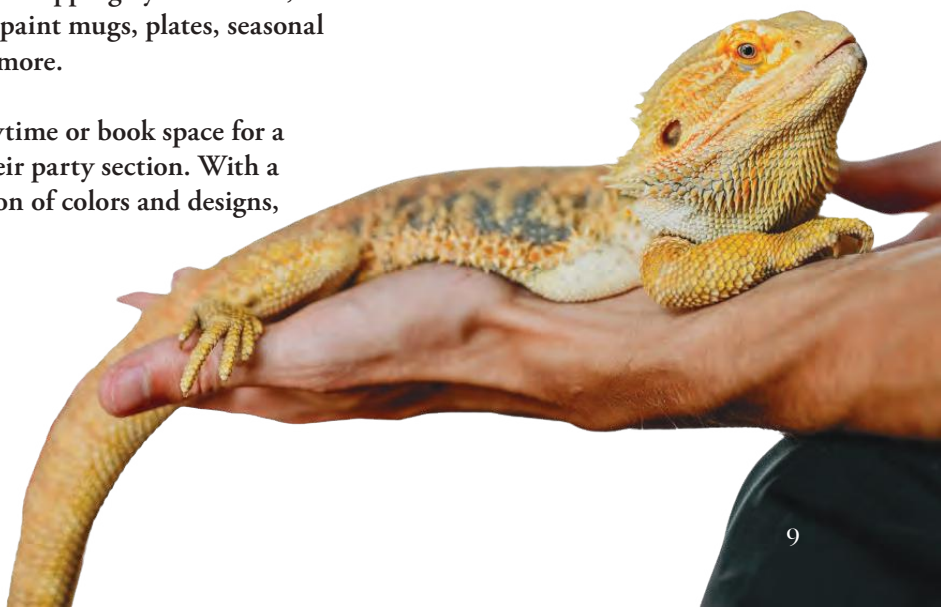
@ThePotteryPlaceBizHurricaneWV or visit thepotteryplace.biz.

MadeBy Pottery Studio

New to the local creative scene, MadeBy Pottery Studio invites you to try your hand at ceramics in a fun, hands-on environment. Located in Hurricane, this welcoming studio offers pottery wheel classes where beginners and experienced artists alike can learn to shape, spin, and glaze their own ceramic pieces.

Whether you're looking for a one-time workshop or a multi-week course, MadeBy provides everything you need to get started—and get messy in the best way. It's a great activity for individuals, friends, or even a unique date night.

Check out @MadeByPotteryStudio on social media for class schedules and inspiration.





Meeks Mountain Trails

Poca & Buffalo & Eleanor & Hurricane & Teays Valley ♥

putnamlibrarywv.org

Books &
Programs &
Community Events &
Local History &
More & More & More
at your Putnam Library



PUTNAM LIBRARY

SummerFun!

Waves of Fun!
Paddleboarding!
Sprayground!
Eleanor Park Pool!

Any Time Activities

- Pottery Place
- Teays Valley Cinemas
- All About Fun Inflatables
- Bear Wood Shop Tour
- Putnam Library - Check their calendar for upcoming events



Waves of Fun



FireSide Grille



Gritt's Farm



MadeBy Pottery



Food & Drink

If you crave ethnic cuisine or comforting down-home country cooking, our variety of culinary options has something to please every palate. Indulge in timeless classic Italian, savor the fiery delights of Thai spices, or relish the warmth of hearty pub fare.

For brunch lovers, try the Hurricane Hash at *Bridge Cafe & Bistro*, or the chicken and waffles from *Bubbarino's*. Grab a steaming cup of coffee or artisan loose leaf tea from *Putnam Provisions*.

Locals love *FireSide Grille's* crowd-pleasing menu of crisp salads, mouthwatering sandwiches, flatbreads, and entrees. The famous Putnam Pepperoni Roll is an absolute must-try and is a great introduction to West Virginia's state food! Or for something more adventurous, visit *Thai Valley Kitchen* for rich, flavorful curries or an iconic bowl of Pad Thai.

In a Hurry?

Grab a scratch-made biscuit from *Tudors* or a steaming bowl from *Wok'd*.

Fueling an Adventure?

Grab a made-to-order wrap or smoothie from *Pulp* or a cold-pressed juice from *The Juice Box*.

Sweet Tooth?

Try a trendy or traditional cupcake from *The Bakerie*, an oversized cookie from *Sweet Mama's*, a scoop of ice cream from *Sugar Maples*.

Find more
local flavor
here:





Local Favorites

- FireSide Grille's Pepperoni Roll
- Belknap's Hurricane Haze Pizza
- Winfield Dairy Freeze
- The Pallet Bar's Tap Array
- Taste of Asia's Sushi
- Fairways Baked Feta
- Valley Cakes Fresh Pastries



Shopping

Putnam County holds completely unexpected locally made items that you won't find anywhere else. We are home to **Bear Wood Company**, a shop known for its furniture and home decor items crafted from reclaimed lumber. They'll even give you a tour of the woodshop! (Although they do ask you make a reservation for large groups.)

Next, for those who love to explore a variety of artisan-made goods and provisions, Putnam County doesn't disappoint. **Putnam Provisions** has shelves lined with an array of locally sourced products, each reflecting the area's rich culture and tradition. You might find homemade jams and jellies, artisanal soaps, or handcrafted jewelry. Shopping here isn't just about buying; it's an experience that connects you with the local community.



Bear Wood Company

And for the fashion-forward, the area's boutiques are a must-visit. Walk into a boutique where each piece of clothing tells a story of style and individuality.

Stop in **Oodles** for dozens of unique gift ideas for anyone on your list, or pick up something beautiful for your home from the latest design styles at **Yeager Design and Interiors**.

We know you'll enjoy the many offerings of our unique businesses and talented artisans.

Find more
local shops
here:





Post-worthy photo spots

- Meeks Mountain Trails murals
- Bear Wood Fairy Trail butterfly wings
- Hurricane Main Street wizard mural
- Sunset at the Winfield Bridge
- Quilt Square at Hoge House

Hotels

Hampton Inn
304-760-7292

Holiday Inn Express
304-757-7177

Red Roof Inn
304-757-6392

Sleep Inn & MainStay Suites
304-397-3200

	Hampton Inn	Holiday Inn Express	Red Roof Inn	Sleep Inn / MainStay Suites
Non-Smoking Facility	✓	✓	✓	✓
Breakfast Included	✓	✓		✓
Wi-Fi Included	✓	✓	✓	✓
Free Parking	✓	✓	✓	✓
Accessible Rooms	✓	✓	✓	✓
Pets Allowed	✓	Service animals only	✓	Service animals only
Meeting Space	✓	✓		✓
Pool	Outdoor	Indoor		
Fitness Center	✓	✓		✓
Other notable features	EV Chargers	Hertz Rental Counter	Free Coffee	Outdoor Grill & Patio, Helipad, EV Chargers

SHORT-TERM RENTALS

If short-term rentals from AirBNB or VRBO are more your speed, you can stay in a house close to local attractions, or enjoy a more rural retreat for some peace and relaxation. If you're looking for a noteworthy experience, stay in a fully furnished shipping container alongside a trail system, a castle-like abode, or a home featuring a mural painted by a local artist.

Find more
places to stay
here:



3-Day Getaways

Outdoor Adventures



Visit

Explore **Meeks Mountain Trails**. **Paddle** along the Kanawha River for a serene sunset view. Play a round of **disc golf** at West Virginia's **top-ranked course** at Valley Park. Meander through the 1-mile loop at **Walter Nature Preserve** for relaxing reflection.

Eat

Refuel with a salad or wrap from **Fuel Counter** and a cold-pressed juice from **Pulp**. Enjoy fresh farm-to-table ingredients at **Bridge Cafe and Bistro**.

After Hours

Relax with a local brew from **The Pallet Bar**.

Family Fun



Visit

Get hands-on with reptiles at **Zoology Zone Science Center**. In summer, cool off at **Waves of Fun** or **Eleanor Park pool**, or explore the **Fall Festival at Gritt's Farm**. Enjoy disc golf at Hurricane Bridge Park, Eleanor Park, or Valley Park. Take a short drive to Point Pleasant to see the **Mothman statue** and visit the **Mothman Museum**.

Eat

Grab a classic sweet treat from **Winfield Dairy Freeze** or local bakeries. Enjoy local favorites like the Putnam Pepperoni Roll at **FireSide Grille**.

After Hours

Wind down creatively by painting a unique treasure at **Pottery Place**.

Relaxing Getaway



Visit

Walk along Hurricane's charming Main Street for local shopping. Stop in **Bear Wood Co.** for a woodshop tour. Book your favorite treatment at one of our **restorative day spas**.

Visit famed **Blenko Glass** for glass blowing demonstrations in their visitors center.

Eat

Enjoy steak or fresh pasta from **Sergio's Italian Cucina**. Grab a cappuccino and local food products from **Putnam Provisions Co.**

After Hours

Check our events calendar for **live music** to enjoy.

History Buff



Visit

Take the guided walking tour of **historic Buffalo** on the free Clio app. View historic "barn" **quilt squares** across Putnam and neighboring Mason counties. Learn something new at local **Civil War Trails stops**. Tour the **Wars Museum** in Nitro, stop to take in the **Doughboy** statue downtown, and browse local antique shops.

Eat

Enjoy country favorites at **Tammy's Country Kitchen**. Order your favorite fixins' on a **Tudor's Biscuit**.

After Hours

Take a moonlit stroll down **historic Main Street in Hurricane** and grab dessert at one of the local eateries there.



BY CHOICE HOTELS



1211 Liberty Park Drive • Hurricane, WV 25526
304-397-3200 • www.SleepInn.com/WV160 • I-64 Exit 39



Valley Park
Disc Golf Course





 **Winfield
Boat Ramp**

RIDENOUR LAKE - NITRO, WV

- LARGEST LAKE IN THE REGION (27 ACRES)
- STOCKED MONTHLY (CATFISH IN WARM MONTHS, TROUT IN COLD MONTHS)
- MINUTES OFF THE INTERSTATE WITH AMPLE PARKING
- SHORELINE FISHING / KAYAKS ARE PERMITTED
- ACCESSIBLE DOCK, KAYAK DOCK
- JULY-AUGUST CATFISH TOURNAMENTS



NitroCVB.com



VisitPutnamWV.com | 304-757-7282 | tourism@putnamtourism.com

Visitors Info at Area 34 - 971 WV-34, Hurricane, WV