

Forest County Self-Guided Auto Tours

The first tour (A) has an estimated travel time of 4-6 hours. It starts at the (1) Courthouse in Tionesta, traveling to the (2) Fish Hatchery, (3) Endeavor, (4) CCC* camp #8 called Beaver Valley, (5) Kiffer Hill, (6) Kellettsville**, (7) CCC* camp #2 called Bucks Mill, (8) Mayburg, (9) Balltown, (10) Truemans, (11) Lynch (Blue Jay), (12) Pigeon, (13) Fire Tower, (14) Marienville, (15) Guitonville, (16) Golinza, (17) Nebraska and ends back in Tionesta at the (18) Tionesta Lake Dam**. (Picnic Areas available - click above)

The second tour (B) has an estimated travel time of 1-2 hours. It starts at the (1) Courthouse in Tionesta, traveling to the (2) Fish Hatchery, (3) Endeavor, (4) CCC* camp #8 call Beaver Valley, (5) Kiffer Hill, (19) German Hill (Tornado Damaged Area) and back to Tionesta to the (33) Timber Crib Dam.

The third tour (C) has an estimated travel time of 4 hours. It starts in (14) Marienville traveling to (20) Roses, (21) Muzette and CCC* camp #9 called Muzette, then unto (6) Kellettsville**, (7) CCC* camp #2 called Bucks Mill, (8) Mayburg, (9) Balltown, (10) Turemans, (11) Lynch (Blue Jay), (12) Pigeon, the (13) Fire Tower and ends back in Marienville.

The fourth tour (D) has an estimated travel time of 1-1 1/2 hours. It starts in (14) Marienville traveling to (20) Roses, (23) Redclyffe, (24) Blood Road, (25) Clarington, (26) River Drive, (27) Cook Forest State Park on SR 36 to Leeper 66 and back to Marienville.

The fifth tour (E) has an estimated travel time of 1-1 1/2 hours. It starts in (1) Tionesta traveling to the (29) Cornplanter State Forest, then (30) Neiltown, (31) Fagundus and ends at (32) West Hickory.

The sixth tour (F) has an estimated travel time of 1 hour. It starts in (14) Marienville and travels to the (22) CCC* camp #6 called Seldom Seen. (Picnic Areas available - click above)

The seventh tour (G) has an estimated travel time of 1-2 hours. It starts in (14) Marienville traveling to the (13) Fire Tower and ends at the (28) CCC* camp #1 called Duhring. (Picnic Areas available – see below)

* CCC Camps: Duhring, Seldom Seen, Beaver Valley, Muzette and Bucks Mill are five of the fourteen Civilian Conservation Corps camps that existed throughout the Allegheny National Forest during the Great Depression. CCC enrollees across the country completed valuable conservation tasks, such as planting trees, building roads, building recreation facilities and fighting forest fires. CCC #1 (Duhring) was the first operational camp in the USA, opening August 25, 1933. At the close of the CCC project in 1937 the camp was occupied by conscientious objectors to military service. They performed the same forestry work as the CCC workers had. The camp became a

prisoner of war camp for AXIS prisoners during WW II (1944). Even now, there are former German prisoners who return to the area and have fond memories of the way they were treated.

** RV Dump Stations: (6) Kellettsville Area and (18) Tionesta Lake Dam Area.

Picnic Area's

Tour A passes two campground areas plus the Tionesta Lake, which offer picnic tables and cooking pits which can be used free of charge. A number of other sites along the route offer open spaces with scenic views and fire pits for cooking but no tables.

The first of the two campgrounds lies approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes along the route 20 miles from the starting point. After route marker number 6 it is a right hand turn off of route 666 to the Kellettsville campground. This site offers tables, fire pits, restrooms, and unsupervised swimming in the Tionesta Creek. A walkway across the bridge over the creek provides a nice view for those who do not want to get wet.

The second campground on the route is known as Minister Creek State Park. It lies on the left side of the road 34 miles and approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes from the Tionesta Courthouse. The campground offers picnic tables, restrooms, and a number of trails for hiking.

Shortly after site number 13 lies a ranger station on the right side of the highway. There is one picnic table but no cooking; however, it would be a nice site to gather some information on the area from the station to read while enjoying a prepared lunch. Site number 18, the Tionesta Lake offers the last chance for a picnic on the driving tour marked as route A. There are picnic tables, metal cooking grills, and restrooms. This site offers fantastic after lunch views of the Tionesta Dam and Lake.

Tour F passes one picnic area on the main route and two others almost immediately after turning off of the marked drive. The first area is about four miles from the starting point in Marienville where you take a right turn into Beaver Meadows. This site offers picnic tables, outdoor grills, restrooms, camping, trails, and a terrific view of the lake. The next site is mentioned under route A. The Kellettsville Recreation Area can be reached by taking a right turn after marker number 6 on the driving tour brochure. The last site is towards the end of the route at an area marked as Amsler Springs. This site lies on the right about 27 miles and 2 hours from the starting point in Marienville. A short path leads from the road to a shelter and then to picnic tables. There is a fire pit for cooking and a small stream but no restrooms at this site.

Tour G passes the Marienville Ranger Station on the left at the beginning of the tour about a mile into the drive. The only other picnic area along this route occurs towards the middle of the route about 10 miles into the drive. This site, which is in the Allegheny National Forest, is marked as Kelly Pines. It is located left off of Duhring road across a narrow bridge and has restrooms, picnic tables, a small stream, and ATV trails.