

MARYLAND
BYWAYS

Old Main Streets

6



White picket fences. Quiet, tree-lined streets. Rocking chairs on the front porch. These are the sights associated with small-town U.S.A., and they're still available for you to see as you step back into a bygone era along this charming byway. Your tour, separated into an Upper and Lower loop, can include leisurely drives past wide-open fields, window-shopping for antiques, dining with "locals" at the eatery on the corner, and then drifting off to sleep on a four-post bed inside a quaint country inn.

Upper Loop from Emmitsburg – US 15, MD 77, 140, 832 & 140

The Emmitsburg Historic District, which is comprised of more than 200 buildings, shows off many of the architectural styles popular in America

during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Beyond Main Street, along Seton Avenue, you can visit the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, recognized as the first native-born American saint. Among the restored period buildings on the property are the 1810 White House, circa-1750 Stone House, and Mortuary Chapel from 1846. Your spiritual journey continues with a stop at the National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes. This "holy mountain sanctuary," found on the campus of Mount Saint Mary's University, was often visited by Mother Seton during her "rosary walks" in the early 1800s, and still attracts thousands of pilgrims each year for prayer and meditation.

Follow the Catoctin Mountain byway (page 47) south along US 15 to

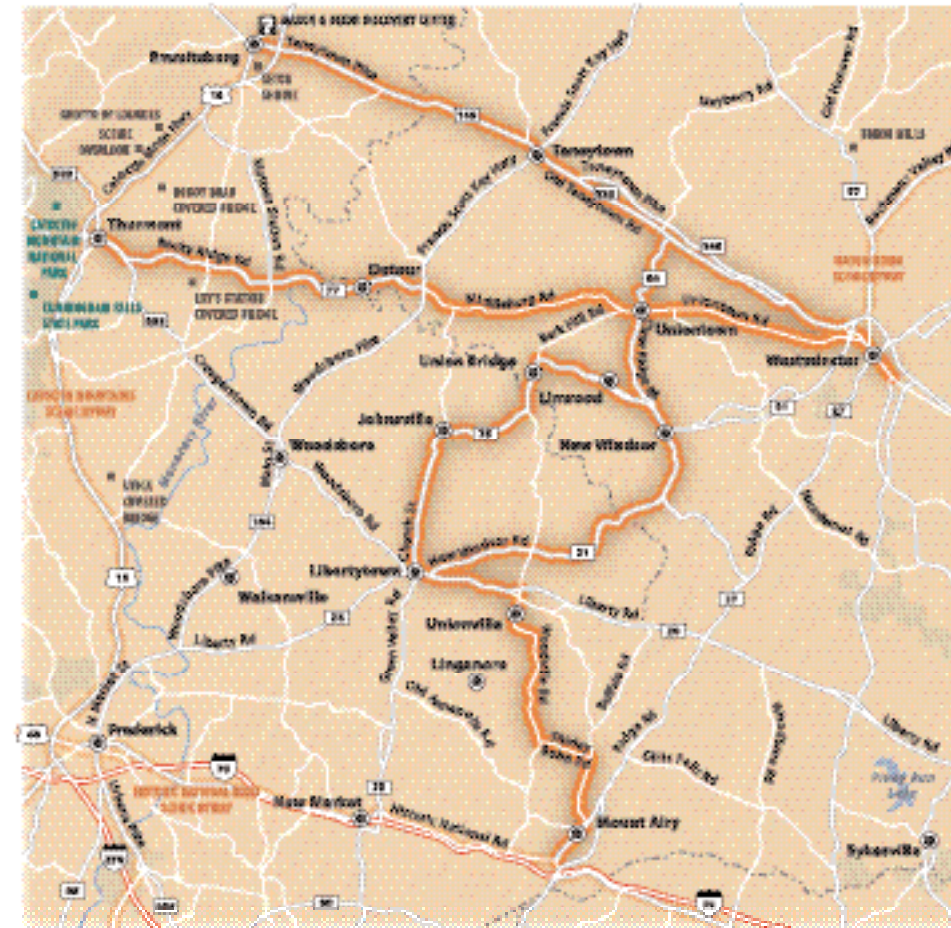


111 miles from Emmitsburg to Mount Airy



Thurmont, settled around 1751 by a family moving west from Pennsylvania. A small tool manufacturing plant popped up, and then the Western Maryland Railroad arrived in 1872. The surrounding land not only features picnicking, play areas and exceptional trout fishing in Catoctin Mountain and Cunningham Falls State Park, but also boasts three covered bridges built in the mid 1800s – Loy's Station, Roddy Road and Utica Mills.

Heading east on MD 77, the old railroad town of Detour was developed around a sawmill and woolen mill, both of which operated until 1849. Farther east, Uniontown is a 19th-century rural village with numerous country-style homes. The Uniontown Academy, now serving as a museum,



is a former one-room schoolhouse, while down the road in Westminster is McDaniel College, a liberal arts and sciences institution established in 1867. Originally known as Western Maryland College, it was the first co-educational college south of the Mason and Dixon Line. Summertime is especially busy on campus, as spectators watch the Baltimore Ravens football team conduct practice before the NFL season gets under way.

Main Street in Westminster is home to the Carroll County Arts Council, as well as three 19th-century buildings under the auspices of the Historical Society of Carroll County. Inside you'll find an exhibition gallery, a research library and displays of historic toys and dolls. Turning south onto Center Street affords a glimpse into the area's agricultural heritage at the

140-acre Carroll County Farm Museum. In addition to farm displays and artisan demonstrations, the museum hosts special events such as the annual Maryland Wine Festival. Sidetracking north along MD 97, you come to the Union Mills Homestead and Grist Mill, a Maryland Civil War Trails site that explores the divided loyalties of the family that operated the mill.

The road back to Emmitsburg on MD 140 rolls through Taneytown, an agricultural trading center established in 1762 by a relative of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Roger Brooke Taney. Settle here for the night in a historic country inn or cozy bed and breakfast.



Lower Loop from Uniontown – MD 84, 75 & 31

The Lower Loop of the Old Main Streets byway meets with the Upper Loop in Uniontown, then strikes south toward Linwood on MD 84. A number of Victorian-era homes have smokehouses, windmills and icehouses. Following MD 75 to the west is Union Bridge, where the Main Street-based Western Maryland Railway Historical Society Museum is filled with artifacts and memorabilia to accompany an N-scale model railroad.

South on MD 75 beyond Johnsville is Libertytown, which was an old turnpike stop as farmers carried grain to the Baltimore port. Next, you loop northeast on MD 31 toward New Windsor, which was called Sulphur Springs when settled in the early 19th century. The historic New Windsor

Conference Center offers a tranquil retreat for numerous non-profit groups, churches and families during the year. From there rejoin MD 84 to complete the tour.

Mount Airy Branch – MD 26, 808 & 27, 26, Woodville Rd, Shirley Bohn Rd, Buffalo Rd, MD 808, which is Main Street

Below the Lower Loop, this byway branches off from Libertytown to Unionville and then straddles the border between Frederick and Carroll counties as it heads along Woodville, Shirley Bohn and Buffalo roads. Look across the countryside for a trio of vineyards – Berrywine Plantations/Linganore Winecellars, Elk Run Vineyards and Loew Vineyards. Take a tour of each operation, sample



the wine and settle down for a quiet picnic.

MD 808 is Main Street for Mount Airy. Parks around town offer opportunities for fishing, hiking and other recreation before you pick up MD 27 and link into the Historic National Road byway (page 7).

OLD LINE LORE: *The Utica Mills Covered Bridge spanned the nearby Monocacy River until being washed away during a severe storm in 1889. The remains of the 101-foot-long bridge were gathered and reassembled at its present location above Fishing Creek.*

Berrywine Plantations/Linganore Winecellars

13601 Glissans Mill Rd
Mount Airy, 21771
410-831-5889

www.linganore-wine.com

Carroll County Arts Council

91 West Main Street
Westminster, 21157
410-848-7272
www.carrollarts@earthlink.net

Carroll County Farm Museum

500 S Center St
Westminster, 21157
410-386-3880, 1-800-654-4645
www.carrollcountymuseum.org

Catoctin Mountain Park

6602 Foxville Rd
Thurmont, 21788
301-663-9330, 301-663-9388
www.nps.gov/cato

Cunningham Falls State Park

14039 Catoctin Furnace Rd
Thurmont, 21788



301-271-7574

www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/western/cunninghamfalls.html

Elk Run Vineyards

15113 Liberty Rd
Mount Airy, 21771
410-775-2513, 1-800-414-2513
www.elkrun.com

Historical Society of Carroll County

210 East Main St,
Westminster, 21157
410-848-6494
www.hscc.carr.org/property/properties.htm

Loew Vineyards

14001 Liberty Rd, Rt 26
Mount Airy, 21771
301-831-5464
www.loewvineyards.net

McDaniel College

2 College Hill
Westminster, 21157
410-848-7000
www.mcdaniel.edu

National Shrine Grotto of Lourdes

Mount St. Mary's College
US Rt 15 South, 19 E Church St
Emmitsburg, 21727
301-447-5318
www.msmary.edu/grotto

National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

333 Seton Ave
Emmitsburg, 21727
301-447-6606
www.setonshrine.org



New Windsor Conference Center

P.O. Box 188, 500 Main St

New Windsor, 21776

1- 800-766-1553, 410-635-8700

www.brethren.org/genbd/nwcc/

Western Maryland Railway Historical Society Museum

41 North Main St

Union Bridge, 21791

410-775-0150, 410-356-9199

www.moosevalley.org/wmrhs

