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SCENIC "ROUTE 6"

Touring the Allegheny Highlands

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 woodlands at Wildcat Park offer lovely diversions.

Continue traveling east, you will be able to really get a taste of the area by sampling wines along **Route 6**. A stop in Sheffield should include a visit to the Allegheny Cellars Winery. Continue winding through the Allegheny National Forest to the village of Kane. Plan time to stop, taste and shop at ArtWorks at the Depot and Flickerwood Wine Cellars & Lounge.

From Kane, traveling east along **Route 6**, you will pass the Nebo Chapel and the Mount Jewett Heritage Mural.

Take an interesting four-mile side trip here on the Kinzua Bridge Scenic Byway to the Kinzua Bridge State Park. The highest railroad bridge in the world when it was built in 1882, the bridge partially collapsed when a tornado hit it in 2003. Reinvented as the Kinzua Sky Walk, visitors can now "walk the tracks across the sky." The park offers overlooks with stunning views of the gorge along with picnic areas and hiking trails.

Return to **Route 6** and travel east to Smethport. Stop at the Visitors Center to pick up a copy of the Smethport Mansion District Walking Tour brochure to get a glimpse of how the lumber and oil barons lived during the 1800s. Grab a "Hubber Burger" at the Route 6 Diner and mix with the locals. Leave time to visit the Old Jail Museum to learn about the famous Civil War Bucktail Regiment organized in Smethport.

At Port Allegany, **Route 6** follows the course of the Allegheny River. Eastward beyond McKean County, the river is but a trout stream. Some people consider this the real source of the Mississippi River. Traveling east on **Route 6**, attractions include Cherry Springs State Park and the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon.

1-800-473-9370

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