



One of
America's Favorite
Mountain Towns

- Travel + Leisure

The mountain-fringed town of Staunton is located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley and is the perfect base of operations for exploring the area.

DAY 1: EXPLORE STAUNTON

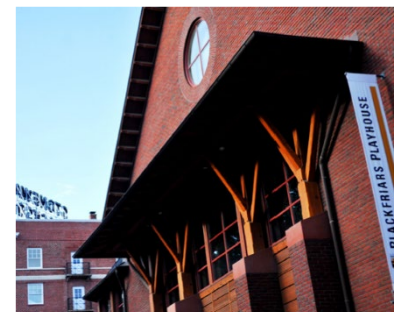
Discover the life and legacy of the 28th President at the [Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum](#). Take a guided tour of the Presbyterian Manse where Wilson was born and spent the first year of his life. Next stop, is the museum which includes Wilson's Pierce-Arrow limousine, an interactive World War I trench and seven exhibit galleries which represent through historic photographs, documents and objects, the life and public service of Woodrow Wilson.

After your tour, head to the [Inn at Meadowcroft](#), a beautifully renovated 1795 log home surrounded by pastoral views of Augusta County. There you'll enjoy a southern take on a traditional English tea. Try an assortment of finger sandwiches using the Meadowcroft Farm's scratch-made pickles, jams and relishes. Then indulge in their signature cookies like their lemon bars or thumbprint cookies. Served with your choice of tea.

Tour the world's only re-creation of Shakespeare's first indoor theatre, the [Blackfriars Playhouse](#). Get a behind-the-scenes look as you go on-stage, behind the stage and even under the stage! Blending lecture and performance in an educational and entertaining way, tour guides tell the story of England's first indoor theatre and describe how the staging conditions of 16th and 17th century London shaped the works of Shakespeare and his fellow playwrights.

Head back to your hotel and freshen up for a night out. Enjoy dinner at one of our local restaurants in downtown Staunton. Visit [Mill Street Grill](#) for their barbecue ribs; [Byers Street Bistro](#) or [The Depot](#) for American inspired dishes.

After dinner head over to the Blackfriars Playhouse for an award-winning performance. Choose from over 15 productions including Shakespearean staples, contemporary works and world premiere musicals.



DAY 2: TOUR DOWNTOWN STAUNTON

Take a tour of downtown Staunton from the comfort of your bus with a step-on guide or do a walking tour! Learn about the history and architecture of this award-winning “Main Street” touring four neighborhoods with stops at [Trinity Episcopal Church](#) to see the original Tiffany stained glass windows; [Sunspots Studios](#) to watch live glass blowing demonstrations; and finally the [R.R. Smith Center](#) to visit the visual art and history galleries.

OTHER AREA ATTRACTIONS:

[Frontier Culture Museum](#) - Visit working farmsteads from Africa, England, Germany and Ireland as you learn about daily life of the Valley’s earliest settlers.



DAY 3: DISCOVER THE VALLEY

Visit one of the area’s natural wonders: [Luray Caverns](#). Discover the largest series of caverns in the East with cathedral-sized rooms featuring ceilings 10-stories high with towering stone formations of stalactites and stalagmites.

Board the bus and enjoy the scenic drive through [Shenandoah National Park](#) stopping along the way to take in the many scenic overlooks, breathtaking waterfalls and spectacular mountain views. Stretch your legs with a nature hike and explore the region’s flora and fauna. Enjoy a picnic dinner as the sun sets over the [Blue Ridge Mountains](#).



DAY 4: GARDEN AND FARM TOUR

[The Viette Gardens](#)

Tour these beautiful gardens—open year-round—and explore the many different sun and shade gardens, a butterfly garden with brightly colored blooms, water gardens, rock gardens and hosta gardens—just to name a few. Get ideas for your own garden, talk to the experts and enjoy shopping in the Garden Center. For a personalized experience add a lecture onto your tour with a member of the Garden Center staff.

[CrossKeys Vineyard](#)

Located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, this family owned and operated winery sits on a beautiful 125-acre estate. With 30 acres of vines, CrossKeys grows 12 varietals of grapes all used to produce their award-winning wines. Go behind the scenes and learn about their different varietals along with how they press, produce, store and bottle their wine. This educational tour can be paired with a wine tasting and lunch.



[White Oak Lavender Farm](#)

End your day at White Oak Lavender Farm and experience the relaxing properties of lavender. Take a private tour of this family farm growing 8,000 lavender plants in many varieties. Guests may pick lavender—when in season—attend a distilling demonstration and visit the drying barn to learn how the plants are harvested for buds and the essential oil is extracted. Groups can add-on a wine tasting and/or try their homemade lavender ice cream. Head back to Staunton for a home cooked meal at [Mrs. Rowe’s](#).

