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DOWNTOWNS OF ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS

START:

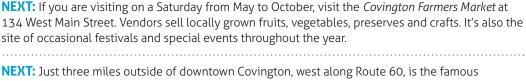
Visitor Center: 110 Mall Road, Covington, Va, just off I-64 at Exit 16B. Pick up brochures and talk to a local expert about places to dine, shop and stay.



NEXT: Take Route 60 West to downtown Covington less than 10 minutes away. First stop is the *Covington C&O Depot* on Maple Avenue. This beautifully restored building was originally constructed in 1890. Today it is home to the *Alleghany Historical Society.*



NEXT: Enjoy viewing the architecture of buildings in the *Covington Historic District*, which is listed in the *National Register of Historic Places*. Dwellings date back to around 1820 while commercial buildings range from late 19th century to early 20th century. Notice the *Alleghany County Courthouse* (1910), Covington Post Office (1914), Scott-Hammond House (1824) and Watson Stephenson House (1857).





NEXT: Just three miles outside of downtown Covington, west along Route 60, is the famous *Humpback Bridge*. The bridge is part of a 5-acre wayside park complete with picnic tables, so pack a lunch or snack and spend a few moments enjoying the view.

NEXT: Head back to I-64 and travel east to Exit 24 to downtown *Clifton Forge.* You'll approach downtown on Ridgeway Street, which is lined with locally owned shops and restaurants, and is part of the town's *Historic District*.

The Clifton Forge Commercial Historic District encompasses 77 buildings in a variety of architectural styles including Classic Revival, Mission/Spanish Revival and Italianate. Take your time browsing this pedestrian friendly downtown.



NEXT: Also on Ridgeway Street is the *Alleghany Highlands Arts & Crafts Center.* This unique facility showcases the work of more than 260 local artists and crafts people. There are also gallery exhibits to enjoy and a full schedule of classes for those who wish to polish their own artistic skills.

NEXT: The *C&O Heritage Railway Heritage Center* tells the story of the *C&O Railroad* in the Alleghany Highlands. The center contains indoor and outdoor displays, scale models and preserved railroad equipment.



NEXT: The *Historic Masonic Theatre* re-opened in June 2016 following a meticulous renovation. The lobby and theatre have been restored to their exquisite original condition. Check the website for details on performances at the restored theatre and the Masonic Amphitheatre. www.historicmasonictheatre.com

Note: This suggested itinerary could easily be extended to two days for those who enjoy architecture, railroad heritage or simply exploring small towns. Be sure to stop at the *Visitor Center* for suggestions on where to stay in the Alleghany Highlands.





MAP IT:

View a Google Map of this itinerary <u>here</u>, or snap the QR code to the left with your smartphone.