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HISTORIC SITES OF THE ALLEGHANY HIGHLANDS

To appreciate the wonderful community that makes up modern Alleghany County, it's helpful to understand the region's diverse history. From the area's impact on the *American Civil War* to the glory days of the railroad in Clifton Forge, our history is preserved and celebrated in the Alleghany Highlands.

DAY ONE:

START: Visit *Kanawha Coffee* in downtown Covington for a latte, pastry or breakfast sandwich. It's a great way to start the day fully caffeinated and energized for a day of exploring.

NEXT: Take Route 60 West from downtown and within 10 minutes, you'll find *Humpback Bridge*. This beloved icon of the Alleghany Highlands is the oldest remaining covered bridge of its design in America. Built in 1857, it's now part of a scenic wayside park where people gather to picnic, fish, swim or take a photo in front of the bridge and one of the most popular LOVEworks displays in Virginia.

NEXT: Head to the *Visitor Center* at *Mallow Mall* in Covington and find the site of the first of three *Civil War Markers* in the Alleghany Highlands.

NEXT: Take the *Selma-Low Moor Rd (Rt 686)* from Low Moor to Clifton Forge through Selma, where you will find the second *Civil War Marker* located at historic *Oakland Church*.

NEXT: Enjoy a lunch at one of the many local restaurants along *Ridgeway Street*, the main thoroughfare through charming downtown Clifton Forge.

NEXT: The *Town of Clifton Forge* has a rich railroad history that is preserved at the *C&O Railway Heritage Center*. The center contains indoor and outdoor displays, scale models and preserved railroad equipment.

NEXT: One of many historic buildings in downtown is *The Historic Masonic Theatre*, built in 1910 and meticulously renovated and re-opened in 2016. The lobby and theatre have been restored to their exquisite original condition. The theatre hosts live theatrical performances, concerts and movies. Check the website for upcoming events.

DAY TWO:

START: Lace up your boots, because this day will be spent outdoors. First stop is *Green Pastures Recreation Area* in the eastern part of the county. The 133-acre recreation area is now home to hiking and biking trails with scenic views. The park was created for use by the African-American community during segregation. The area is now managed by *Douthat State Park* under a unique stewardship agreement between the *USDA Forest Service* and *Virginia State Parks*.

NEXT: As you depart *Green Pastures Recreation Area*, turn right on *Longdale Furnace Road* to find the third *Civil War Marker* on the site of an old blast furnace that supplied pig iron to the confederacy for munitions and cannons.

NEXT: *Douthat State Park* is both scenic and historic. It was one of the original six units in the *Virginia State Park* system. The park's infrastructure, trails and original cabins were built by the *Civilian Conservation Corps*, a depression-era work program. Today, it remains one of Virginia's most popular state parks with a sandy beach, excellent fishing and 46 miles of trails for hiking and mountain biking.

