Choose your Adventure

With so many things to do, it can be helpful to have a few sample itineraries for your trip to Jefferson County. These cover a variety of interests and offer some ideas about ways to spend your day in the area.

From the culture lover to the outdoor adventurer, to the history buff, you can use these guides to create a schedule that is just right for you.

Interested in multiple things? Browse through the different itineraries to create the ultimate getaway with all your favorite experiences!

**Culture & Arts**

Arrive in Shepherdstown, WV, check into Bavarian Inn

Explore downtown Shepherdstown: The Entler Hotel and Museum, Four Seasons Books, and Ricco Gallery for original art and jewelry

Lunch: Blue Moon Café, Shepherdstown

Watch Contemporary American Theater Festival Play—(Month of July) Shepherd University

Visit Charles Town Library, Featuring the Thornton Perry Room and the Jefferson County Museum

Browse the Fire Hall Gallery, presented by the Washington Street Artists’ Cooperative —or—

Drive to Harpers Ferry and visit Rivers Studio & Gallery and Washington Street Studios

Review the special events scheduled in the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and experience activities such as a behind the scenes tour of objects in their archeology collection that rarely see the light of day or learn about archeology at Harpers Ferry and a day in the life of a national park service archeologist

Taste some Sweet Shine at Bloomery Plantation Distillery as you circle back through Charles Town on your way back to Shepherdstown

Dinner: Press Room, Shepherdstown

Listen to Traditional Folk Music (every Thursday evening) at O’Hurley’s General Store or

Check out the shows at The Old Opera House in Charles Town—or—

Experience some late-night entertainment starting with dinner at the Final Cut Steakhouse or 9 Dragons located in the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races and enjoy gaming, horse racing, entertainment, and drinks, open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, Charles Town, WV

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Arrive Harpers Ferry, WV; check into the Olde White House Inn Bed & Breakfast, originally an 1837 Civil War Armory House or one of the other over a dozen bed & breakfasts in the area.

Board shuttle bus at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Visitor Center and disembark in the middle of historic Harpers Ferry.

Visit some of the 23 museums located in the historic downtown of Harpers Ferry highlighting John Brown’s Raid, the Civil War, the Niagara Movement, and the Lewis and Clark expedition; climb the steps to Jefferson Rock (Thomas Jefferson stood here on October 25, 1783 and wrote later, “The passage of the Potomac through the Blue Ridge is perhaps one of the most stupendous scenes in Nature. You stand on a very high point of land. This scene is worth a voyage across the Atlantic.”)

Check the Harpers Ferry National Historical Park event page to experience weekend activities explaining how archeology has influenced the knowledge of history at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, artillery crew demonstrations, bread, pie, candy and cider making, and more!

Browse the Harpers Ferry Historical Association Bookshop
Lunch: Potomac Grill

Enjoy True Treats Historic Candy (the nation’s only historic candy store). Re-board the bus and pick-up your car to further travel the area.

Explore downtown Shepherdstown: Visit the George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War; the Center has a magnificent Civil War library and sponsors lectures by leading authorities on antebellum and Civil War history, summer seminars, and battlefield tours.

Walk to Rumsey Monument (Rumsey’s devotees claim it was he, not Robert Fulton, who truly invented the steamboat), The Entler Hotel and Museum, and O’Hurley’s General Store — or —

Stop in Charles Town and retrace John Brown’s last steps and visit the Jefferson County Museum
Dinner: Hillbrook Inn, fine dining (situated on George Washington’s first land purchase in 1750), Charles Town, WV
Sign-up for a Ghost Tour of Harpers Ferry, rated the number 1 ghost tour in America (or one in Shepherdstown or Charles Town, all three towns boast ghost tours!)

Arrive Harpers Ferry WV, check into Clarion Inn, Harpers Ferry

Drive one mile to Harpers Ferry, WV; board shuttle bus at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park Visitor Center to end up in the middle of the historic area.

Climb the steps to Jefferson Rock (The location offers gorgeous views of the surrounding mountains, the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, and the water gap) continue along the pathway to access the Appalachian Trail for a longer hike around the area — or —

Walk across the pedestrian bridge to access the C&O Canal and take a stroll along the Potomac River or begin a more strenuous hike up to Maryland Heights for more fantastic views.

Shop at The Outfitters at Harpers Ferry for hiking clothes and gear

Visit the Appalachian Trail Conservancy for maps and guidebooks.

Outdoor Adventure

Board the shuttle to return to your car
Lunch: White Horse Tavern, Clarion Inn

Embrace adventure at River Riders Family Adventure Resort for an afternoon of ziplining, tubing or rafting on the Potomac River, activities available for all age groups, including toddlers!

Shop at White Fly Outfitters or plan a morning guided fishing trip

Relax over a casual dinner in the Rathskellar Lounge or Bavarian Brothers Brew Pub at the Bavarian Inn and enjoy after dinner drinks — or —

Visit the Hollywood Casino at Charles Town Races Skybox Sports Bar and the Casino’s 24-hour entertainment venue