



The Southern & Eastern Kentucky Tourism Development Association (SEKTDA) can assist groups with reservations, scheduling, hospitality, boxed lunches, or special entertainment if needed. SEKTDA can also put you in touch with other local contacts.

Call toll free 1 888-733-7359 or visit us at www.tourseky.com

Along the Hal Rogers Parkway

Day One

Depart Lexington—or Knoxville—via I-75 for London and the beginning of the Hal Rogers Parkway, which runs east through the scenic Daniel Boone National Forest and the Cumberland Plateau. Take the parkway to Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park. En route from Lexington, Fort Boonesborough State Historic Site is a short distance off I-75. It is a living history museum and a reconstruction of the original wilderness settlement founded by Daniel Boone on the Kentucky River in 1775. Levi Jackson Wilderness Road State Park in London interprets another section and another phase of the history of the Wilderness Road, the original way west for the settlers who came through Cumberland Gap. Take a guided tour of the museum, early settlers' buildings, McHargue's Mill, and portions of the original Boone's Trace and original Wilderness Road.

Have lunch at one of the many restaurants in London at I-75 Exits 38 or 41 or in Corbin at the Harland Sanders Café and Museum, which is the original 1940s Col. Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken Restaurant and international headquarters of KFC.

If the focus of the trip is more on crafts stop at the new Gateway Artisan Center at I-75 Exit 77 for an overview of Kentucky craft traditions and an introduction to the crafts of eastern Kentucky. Continue on to London for lunch. Or, continue on to the Wendover Big House in Hyden. Have a home-cooked meal for lunch, and tour the house and grounds and learn the inspiring story of the Frontier Nursing Service.

From Hyden, drive to Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park for dinner and overnight. The park is isolated, and the lodge overlooks a small mountain lake enclosed by undeveloped forest. The lake has great fishing. Options include overnight at the Daniel Boone Motor Inn, Days Inn, Hampton Inn, Hazard Hotel, or Super 8 in Hazard.

Day Two

After breakfast, drive to Hindman and visit the Kentucky Appalachian Artisan Center featuring exhibits of contemporary fine and folk arts from a large area of southern and eastern Kentucky. Then, take a guided walk through the 1902 Hindman Settlement School. Learn about the role of settlement schools in the craft revival of Eastern Kentucky. Visit the Marie Stewart Craft Shop, which is part of the Hindman Settlement School and has a good selection of traditional handicrafts, including potters on the Kentucky Pottery Tour.

Depart for Alice Lloyd College in Pippa Passes. Have lunch on the campus and then tour the college and learn the inspirational story of this unique Appalachian institution that was the subject of a famous Reader's Digest article in 1954. Options include a variety of educational programs, ranging from a demonstration of mountain dulcimer making to a program on Appalachian history, that the college is willing to arrange for groups.

Alternatively, drive to Whitesburg for lunch at the Courthouse Café and a chance to tour the Cozy Corner craft shop, one of the best outlets in eastern Kentucky for true mountain handicrafts. After lunch, visit Appalshop, a unique institution, started in the 1960s to record Appalachian mountain lifeways. Now it has a 24-7 radio station and lots of audio and videotapes of mountain music and culture for sale.

Return to Buckhorn Lake State Resort Park or accommodations in Hazard for dinner and overnight. If staying at Buckhorn, take a late afternoon pontoon boat ride on Buckhorn Lake or enjoy the park facilities, including hiking trails, a large swimming pool, and a lakefront beach with lake swimming. While at the park visit the Buckhorn Log Church in the nearby community of Buckhorn.

Options & Extensions

Multiple days can be added to your itinerary. From Buckhorn, take KY 80 (an extension of the Hal Rogers Parkway) east to Jenny Wiley State Resort Park, a convenient headquarters for exploring historical and cultural attractions along US 23, the Country Music Highway. From here, visit the Mountain Home Place and Butcher Hollow near Paintsville and the Pioneer Village in nearby Salyersville. Attend a performance of the Kentucky Opry at the Mountain Arts Center in Prestonsburg or the Summer Theater at Jenny Wiley, and visit David Appalachian Crafts in the nearby community of David.

From Jenny Wiley, return to Lexington or I-75 via Morehead and I-64. In Morehead, visit the Kentucky Folk Art Center and the Moonlight School. Have lunch at one of the many restaurants in the city.

Alternatively, from Buckhorn return to London and I-75 via the Hal Rogers Parkway. Drive I-75 and US 25E, one of Kentucky's newly designated National Scenic Byways—the Wilderness Road—to Cumberland Gap National Historic Park. Tour the visitor center and Pinnacle Overlook. The more adventurous can take a guided hike (moderately strenuous) on the newly restored section of the original Wilderness Road, the foot trail that early settlers followed west through the Gap. Also visit the Lost Squadron Museum in Middlesboro and the Abraham Lincoln Museum in Harrogate, Tennessee. Overnight at Pine Mountain State Resort Park in Pineville or at the Best Western Inn or Holiday Inn Express in Middlesboro.

