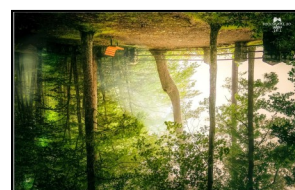


DAY HIKES IN THE WILDS

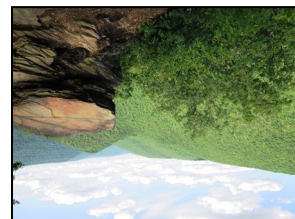
An easy, wheelchair or stroller accessible section of the Rim Trail at Colton Point State Park takes you from parking lot to this quiet spot.



The more sure-footed members of your party might continue on the remainder of the 1.5-mile Rim Trail for additional PA Grand Canyon vistas.

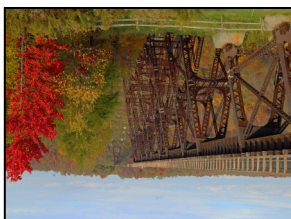
Photo by Bernadette Chiaromonte Brown, Edge of the Woods Photography, 2018 State Parks Calendar

The late Tom Thwaites (author of *50 Hikes in Central Pennsylvania* among many other hiking guides) once called the Golden Eagle Trail Pennsylvania's best day hike.



Raven's Horn is this Tiadaghton State Forest trail's most well-known feature. At a little over nine miles, it is challenging and satisfying outing.

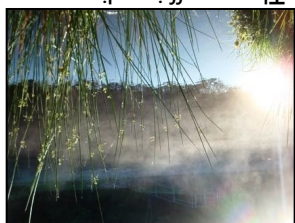
Above and below, Kinzua Viaduct is an impressive sight. Casually stroll out to the glass-bottomed Sky Walk observation deck if you dare.



Take the steep and challenging half-mile Kinzua Creek Trail to the bottom of the canyon to see the bridge from down under and the easier General Kane Trail is 1.5 miles of hardwood forest. Do not miss the Kinzua Bridge State Park visitors center.

Photo by Dallas Runser, 2017 Parks & Forests Thru the Seasons photo contest

Since the 7.7-mile Moss Hanne Trail at Black Moshannon State Park travels through the Bog Natural Area, it calls for waterproof boots.



The payoff is a diverse ecosystem and, in July and August, blueberries on the bush. The one-mile Blueberry (loop) Trail section focuses on the bog and blueberries parts.

REFERENCES

(For state parks or forests, visit DCNR.PA.gov)

Day Hiking:

Golden Eagle Trail: VisitPA.com/PA-Hiking/Golden-Eagle-Trail

Cycling:

Pine Creek Trail: PACanyon.com/PineCreekRailTrail

Backpacking:

Susquehannock Trail: STC-Hike.org

Mountain Biking:

The Trails at Jakes Rocks: TrailsatJakesRocks.com

On the Water:

Middle Allegheny River Water Trail: PFBC.PA.gov/WaterTrails/Alleg/TrailGuide.htm

Wildly Unique:

Cherry Springs: CSSPDarkSkyFund.org

Fireflies: PAFireflyFestival.org



PAWilds.com



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BACKPACKING IN THE WILDS

A large region deserves a long trail, and the 85-mile Susquehannock fits the bill. As a loop trail, the Susquehannock offers shorter options and connections to some of the Sprout State Forest's best trails like the Donut Hole and Black Forest. The Susquehannock Trail Club maintains the trail and offers a Circuit Hiker Award to those who complete the whole trail.



Photo by York Hiking Club

MOUNTAIN BIKING IN THE WILDS

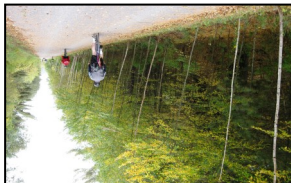
With over 30 miles of loops under development The Trails at Jakes Rocks is an exciting new project of International Mountain Biking Association and its partner organizations.



Every level of fat tire rider will find a challenge or a place to learn a new skill.

CYCLING IN THE WILDS

You can't talk about cycling in the Wilds Region without the Pine Creek Trail of the Tioga and Tiadaghton state



forests. Pedal this 62-mile rail-trail in a series of day trips or use it as a multi-day bike tour destination. Inns and campgrounds are available along the way, and the town of Wellsboro provides an ideal stopping or starting destination.

Road cyclists in search of a peaceful spin will enjoy River Road in Cook Forest State Park. Beginning at the park office just off PA Route 36 in Cooksburg, River Road



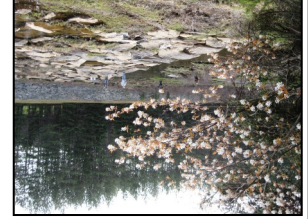
lives up to its name, following the Clarion River for nine low-traffic miles to Clarington. Continue another few miles beyond and you can see Clear Creek State Park on the other side of the river!

ON THE WATER IN THE WILDS

The National Wild & Scenic Allegheny River (Pennsylvania's 2017 River of the Year) includes the 107-mile Middle Allegheny



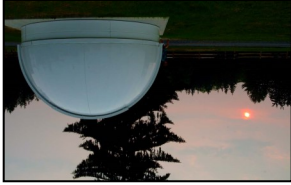
River Water Trail stretching from Kinzua Dam to the town of Emlenton just upstream from the I-80 bridge. The calm Allegheny mostly leaves the whitewater for another day.



Fishing is popular all year long at Parker Dam State Park, where brook trout are stocked in spring, fall, and winter and bass might just jump in your boat. The opening day of trout season is always just a little busy but you can still find a quiet place to drop a line.

UNIQUE IN THE WILDS

Quite simply, no visit to the Wilds could be complete without a visit to the dark skies of Cherry Springs State Park.



When it comes to "unique" and "night skies," P. Carolinus fireflies to be found in the Allegheny National Forest from the summer solstice through the second week of July are something to behold.



Photo by Radim Schreiber

Time your Wilds visit just right (think September) and enjoy the sounds of bull elk bugling from the largest wild elk herd east of the Mississippi!

