

A young boy with short brown hair is climbing a large, moss-covered rock face. He is wearing a light green t-shirt with a graphic and blue shorts with orange and yellow stripes. His right arm is extended upwards, reaching for a hold on the rock. The background is a dense forest with green foliage and sunlight filtering through the trees.

Visit
CLEARFIELD
COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

VISITOR GUIDE

SOMETHING WILD IS WAITING.



*Mike Butler,
Wild local*

Some trips are planned months in advance. Others begin with a free weekend and a full tank of gas. Either way, the best trips have something in common:

They surprise you.

A trail that turns into an afternoon. A scenic drive that becomes dinner in a downtown you hadn't planned to explore. A roadside stop that ends up being your favorite memory of the weekend.

That's what makes Clearfield County different: not one unforgettable attraction, but dozens of them.

Some are found deep in the Pennsylvania Wilds. Others are waiting around the next corner, inside a historic theater, beside a quiet lake, at the end of a hiking trail, or in a coffee shop you just stumbled upon.

Around here, "wild" isn't just something you find outdoors. It's discovering experiences you never expected to find together. Whatever brings you here—adventure, family, a long weekend, or simply the road ahead ...

... something wild is waiting.

By the numbers

316-MILLION-YEAR-OLD
ROCK FORMATIONS

187,000 ACRES OF
STATE FOREST

208 MILES OF
SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

200+ MILES OF SCENIC
FOREST ROADS

140 MILES OF ATV TRAILS

75 MILES OF THE
QUEHANNA TRAIL



Dinosaur from Doolittle Station, DuBois

FIND YOUR WILD



Clearfield County Fair



The Rock on the River

6-7 WILD OUTDOORS

Endless forests, scenic trails, and wide-open views: the gateway to the Pennsylvania Wilds is built for big adventure, or just a little peace and quiet.

8-9 WILD IN TOWN

You'll find more character in our downtowns than you might expect: local art, antique storefronts—even a museum pairing classic cars with taxidermy.

10-11 WILD ON THE WATER

Launch a kayak, cast a line, or simply enjoy the view. With lakes, rivers, and streams around every bend, there's no shortage of ways to enjoy the water.

12-13 WILD WEEKEND

Need a little inspiration? We've already mapped out a full weekend that mixes family fun, outdoor adventure, and a little of everything in between.

Whatever kind of getaway you're after, you'll find plenty of it here—and probably a few things you weren't expecting. The only question is: where will you start?

14-15 | ON THE MENU

From comfort food and hometown diners to wineries, breweries, and local favorites, every appetite will find something to love. Come hungry!

16-17 | ENTERTAINMENT

Festivals, live music, county fairs, and unexpected roadside fun: something's always happening here, no matter when you decide to visit.

18-19 | WHERE TO STAY

Cabins, campgrounds, hotels, and boutique inns. Whether you're roughing it or looking for all the comforts of home, there's a place for you here.

20-21 | LAY OF THE LAND

Get your bearings before you head out. Explore the towns, scenic byways, and waterways that make Clearfield County worth discovering firsthand.

22-23 | PLAN YOUR VISIT

Everything you need to make the most of your trip, from events and travel tips to visitor information and local resources, all in one handy place.



Rails to Trails Curwensville

Around here, “wild” doesn’t always mean rugged. Sometimes it just means room to breathe.

Parker Dam State Park

Thirteen miles of hiking trails wind through this state park inside Moshannon State Forest, from short walks to a full day outdoors. The most popular route, the Trail of New Giants, is a 1.2-mile hike passing old-growth trees to two overlooks above the lake at Parker Dam. A boat launch and day-use area make the water just as easy to reach as the trailhead.

28 Fairview Rd, Penfield, PA

Elk Country

Pennsylvania is home to the largest free-roaming elk herd east of the Mississippi, and Route 879 is one of the best places to see them. Elk move down from higher ground to graze at dawn and dusk, the best times for a sighting. The most dramatic viewing happens during the fall rut, when bulls bugle to assert territory, a sound that carries farther than expected.

Rut season: September–October

Safe viewing distance: 100 yards

WILD OUTDOORS



WILD BUT TRUE!

Pennsylvania's elk herd nearly disappeared. By 1936, only 14 elk remained in the entire state; today the free-roaming herd numbers around 1,300.

Photo: Bruce Walkovich

The Quehanna Trail System

Backpackers looking to disappear for a night or two will find more than 70 miles of trail here, winding through Moshannon and Elk State Forests, starting right at Parker Dam. Hikers regularly report elk sightings along its remoter stretches. Much of the route runs through terrain with no services, so come prepared to pack in and pack out everything you bring.

Permit (stays over one night): free, call 814-765-0821
Moshannon State Forest District Office



Bilger's Rocks

Walk beneath sandstone corridors that have stood since before the dinosaurs. Hear an elk bugle past the tree line, follow a trail that ends at a view instead of a destination, and lose track of your phone for an afternoon.

Bilger's Rocks

Sandstone corridors and narrow passageways make up this maze-like formation near Grampian, one of Pennsylvania's most distinctive rock formations. The stone dates back roughly 316 million years, long before the dinosaurs. Some passages are wide enough to walk through standing up; others narrow to a squeeze, rewarding a slow, exploratory pace.

1921 Bilgers Rocks Rd, Grampian, PA



WILD IN TOWN



Some of the best discoveries here don't happen on the trail. They happen after you park the car: three floors of antiques, a gallery of local art, a cheese shop worth planning a stop around, a museum that pairs classic cars with taxidermy and somehow makes it work, and a shop for anyone chasing something a little more mystical.

Aunt Ellie's Cheese Shoppe

A mile off I-80 near Treasure Lake, this European-inspired fromagerie stocks a rotating selection of artisanal cheeses, both local and imported, from French brie to English cheddar. Sample before you buy, then round out the board with imported oils, vinegars, artisan crackers, and chocolates.

1372 Old 255 Rd, DuBois, PA

Historica Plus

Vendors here rent space across three full floors of the historic Leitzinger Building, 24,000 square feet of antiques, making it one of the larger antique malls in this part of the state. The inventory turns over constantly, from furniture and glassware to postcards, tools, and estate jewelry. Because it operates as a co-op rather than a single shop, it rewards slow browsing.

234 E Market St, Clearfield, PA

Raven Moon's Oracle

DuBois's only spiritual wellness shop deals in crystals, herbs, tarot cards, and altar tools, alongside small-batch candles, skincare, and ritual oils made in-house. Named Best Specialty Gift Shop three years running by Best of Tri-County. Locally made incense and jewelry round out the shelves.

17 N Brady St, DuBois, PA



*One stop turns
into five before
you know it.*

Rock on the River



Grice Clearfield Community Museum

The Liddle Gallery

Both a gallery and a working studio space, this downtown spot represents more than 40 local artists whose work fills the walls and rotates throughout the year. Beyond browsing and buying, it hosts open painting hours, Paint & Sip nights, and the occasional Wine Walk that brings the whole block to life. It's a genuinely local operation, run by and for the artists on display.

109 E Market St, Clearfield, PA

Grice Clearfield Community Museum

Two collections that have no obvious business being under one roof somehow work together here. Nearly 70 classic and antique cars sit parked alongside more than 400 taxidermy mounts, including one of Pennsylvania's largest black bears. Ask about the moose; the story behind how it ended up mounted, tangled in telephone lines in Canada, is one the staff enjoy telling.

Open Memorial Day–Sept 30 daily; weekends only in October
\$10 admission (12 & under free) · 119 N 4th St, Clearfield, PA



Hockman Candy



Curwensville Home for the Holidays



WILD ON THE WATER

Parker Dam State Park

Not every adventure here asks you to pick up the pace. Launch a kayak from a quiet beach, sip a glass of wine by a creekside winery, or cast a line into a cold stream that's been drawing anglers for generations.

Moshannon Creek & Parker Dam State Park

Stocked with trout several times each season, these are two of the most reliable cold-water fisheries in the county. Brook trout go into both Parker Dam State Park and nearby Little Clearfield Creek, giving anglers more than one spot to try nearby. The creek stays cold enough, even in summer, to support trout that couldn't survive in warmer water, a serious draw for fly fishing.

PA fishing license + trout permit required (16 and up)

Buy online: fishandboat.com

Curwensville Lake Recreation Area

362 acres of lake and shoreline make up this recreation area, built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and now managed by Clearfield County. The lake includes a sand swimming beach, a boat launch, and a disc golf course, plus more than 50 electric campsites. With no horsepower restriction, it draws everything from paddleboards to pontoon boats.

Open April–early November; **day-use fees apply**
1256 Lake Dr, Curwensville, PA

Turtle's Landing Winery

Opened in 2024 along Clearfield Creek, this family-owned winery pours wine by the glass or bottle alongside a rotating lineup of Pennsylvania beers and spirits, enjoyed from a seating area right on the creek bank. Weekend evenings in warmer months often bring live music and food trucks.

1049 Creek Rd, Clearfield, PA

The West Branch Susquehanna

Running through the heart of Clearfield County, this stretch of river is the only section the state actively stocks, with trout sharing the water alongside catfish, bass, muskie, and walleye. The river is also a destination beyond fishing: the Clearfield Riverwalk follows it through town, connecting downtown to the water at several points.

Anglers 16+ need a **PA fishing license** and trout permit
Public access points throughout the county

Shaggers Inn

Photo: Bruce Walkovich



DID YOU KNOW?

Curwensville Dam, which created Curwensville Lake, wasn't finished until 1965. Standing 131 feet tall, the dam holds back more than 200,000 acre-feet of water and was built primarily for flood control.

West Branch Susquehanna River
Curwensville



Fly fishing on Susquehanna
Clearfield



WILD WEEKEND

*Not sure where to start?
Here's what one Saturday
in Clearfield County can
look like.*



MORNING

Start at **Bilger's Rocks**, the maze of sandstone corridors near Grampian that formed some 316 million years ago, long before the first dinosaurs existed. Give yourself an hour to wander the passages, then head into downtown Clearfield while Market Street is still quiet. Grab breakfast at **Spanky's Courthouse Cafe**, home of Pennsylvania's largest omelet, then work your way down the block: **Historica Plus** for three floors of antiques, **The Liddle Gallery** if you're after local art, and **Shaw Park** at Market and Front Streets for the student-painted mural you weren't expecting to find. You won't have checked in anywhere yet, and the morning's already full.



AFTERNOON

From downtown Clearfield, DuBois is a short drive away—and life-size dinosaurs are waiting. Swing through **Jurassic Putt's** minigolf course at **Doolittle Station**, then refuel at the **Angry Goat**, where axe throwing and a golf simulator turn lunch into an active afternoon. From there, go your own way: chase down chocolate-covered potato chips at **Hockman Candy**, or browse the walls at **Winkler Gallery**.



EVENING

Head to **Denny's Beer Barrel Pub**, just off I-80 in Clearfield, and decide how far you're willing to go. The Ye Olde 96er is six pounds of burger that only about 15 percent of challengers finish; the real test is the Guinness World Record version, an 80-pound patty on a 30-pound bun that tops 123 pounds. Don't feel bad if you tap out early—it's been the county's biggest food challenge since 1977 for a reason.



NIGHT

Close the night one of two ways. The **Super 322 Drive-In** has been running double features on a single screen since 1950; bring a blanket and get there before dark for a good spot. Or skip the movie and head to **Curwensville Lake** instead, where the sunset over 362 acres of water puts on its own kind of show.

*That's just Saturday.
Sunday's still wide open.*



WILD ON THE MENU

Denny's Beer Barrel Pub

Ask five locals for their favorite place to eat and you'll get five different answers, and all five will be right—from a restaurant that's been perfecting Sunday-dinner Italian since the '80s, to a gastropub pouring craft beer where the gas pumps used to be.

THAT'S WILD!

Starr Hill Vineyard & Winery started with 12 vines its founder planted on the property in 1994; it's since grown to roughly 3,000 vines across 13 acres.

Station 101



Luigi's Ristorante

Italian food has been the specialty here since 1984, when brothers Eddie and Louis Tate opened the restaurant on recipes from their grandmother Mary. Now, Eddie's daughter Mia runs the dining room and catering, while her husband, Ryan, works as head chef. The walls are covered in decades of customer photographs regulars are still adding to.

32 N Brady St, DuBois, PA

Station 101

Housed in a revamped Sunoco station on Bee Line Highway, this gastropub keeps the original garage windows and a ceiling-mounted door as part of its industrial look. The menu runs from weekend brunch to burgers, pasta, and steaks, with rotating specials like firecracker egg rolls and a Blackberry Bliss salad. Twelve beers stay on draft, mixing craft and local picks.

2285 Bee Line Hwy, DuBois, PA

Starr Hill Vineyard & Winery

Well-known enough to run tasting rooms inside Pennsylvania Walmart stores, this Curwensville winery still offers its best experience at the home vineyard. Free tastings and tours are available on-site, and the grounds include a bandstage, gazebo, and patio overlooking the vines that regularly host events, including the annual Groundhog Wine & Shine Festival.

861 Bailey Rd, Curwensville, PA

Angel Walk Winery

Grapes grown right on the property go into every bottle poured at this small, family-run winery in Allport, run by Vince and Wanda Ryen. The lineup leans sweet and fruit-forward, with varieties like Niagara, Delaware Red, and Strawberry Hill alongside several Concord-based wines. Angel Walk hosts live music on the patio throughout the season.

56 Angel Walk Ln, Allport, PA

Dented Keg Brewing Company

Elevated bar food and a river view make this family-and-friend-owned brewpub one of downtown's best patio hangs, right on the banks of the West Branch Susquehanna along the Clearfield Riverwalk. The kitchen turns out loaded tots, wings, nachos, and flatbreads, paired with house craft beer and cider. Live music takes over some summer weekends too.

139 W Market St, Clearfield, PA



Aunt Ellie's Cheese Shoppe

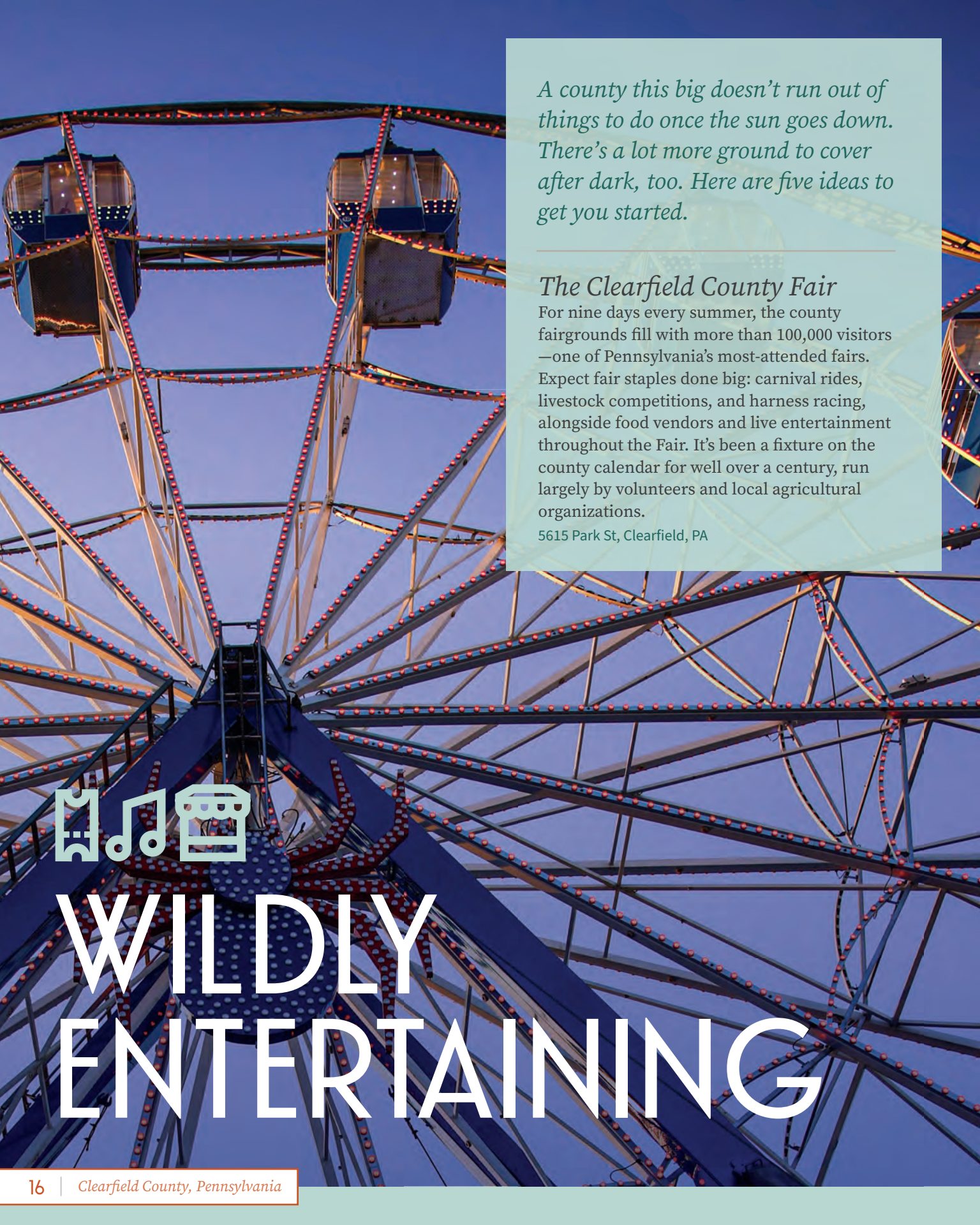
The Dented Keg



Deja Brew



Still hungry? Discover
even more delicious
bites on our website.



A county this big doesn't run out of things to do once the sun goes down. There's a lot more ground to cover after dark, too. Here are five ideas to get you started.

The Clearfield County Fair

For nine days every summer, the county fairgrounds fill with more than 100,000 visitors—one of Pennsylvania's most-attended fairs. Expect fair staples done big: carnival rides, livestock competitions, and harness racing, alongside food vendors and live entertainment throughout the Fair. It's been a fixture on the county calendar for well over a century, run largely by volunteers and local agricultural organizations.

5615 Park St, Clearfield, PA



WILDLY ENTERTAINING

The Reitz Theater

A church for most of its history, this DuBois building was constructed in 1887 and served as Cornerstone Baptist Church until 1992. It survived a fire in 1888 that destroyed much of the city. Cultural Resources Inc. purchased it in 1992, converting it into the Paul G. Reitz Theater, which now hosts plays, musicals, concerts, and youth performances year-round.

Season runs year-round: tickets and schedule at thereitztheater.com
36 E Scribner Ave, DuBois, PA

CAST (Clearfield Arts Studio Theatre)

Community theater, music, and arts education have called Clearfield home since 1983, when CAST first opened its doors. The organization's 190-seat auditorium sits just blocks from the Ritz. Beyond mainstage productions, CAST runs the Clearfield Choral Society, a Seeds of Art summer camp, and the Susquehanna River Arts Center.

Season runs year-round: tickets and schedule at clearfieldarts.org
112 E. Locust St, Clearfield, PA

Ritz Theater

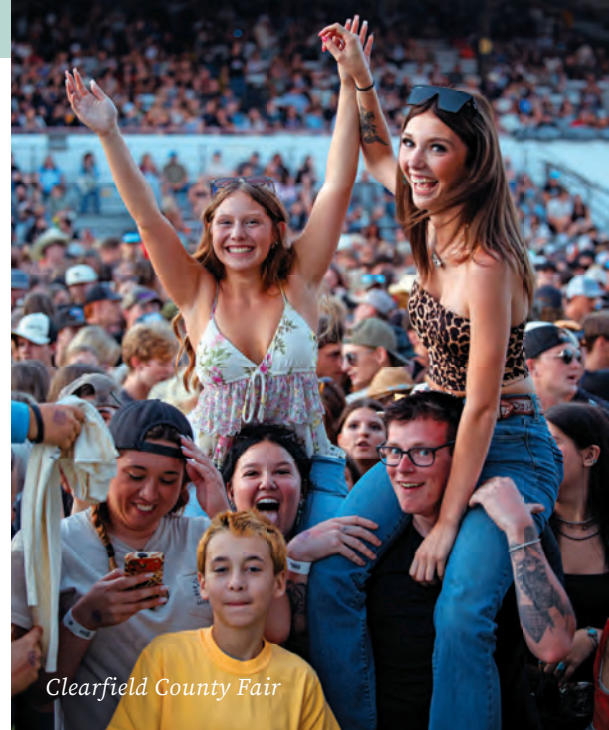
Movies have been playing continually here since 1928, making this one of the oldest operating theaters in Pennsylvania. The Ritz was divided into two separate screens in 1971, and both the Ritz I and Ritz II have been running new releases ever since. Its original 1,054-seat auditorium dates to 1926, built onto a foyer section from the 1890s.

111 E Market St, Clearfield, PA

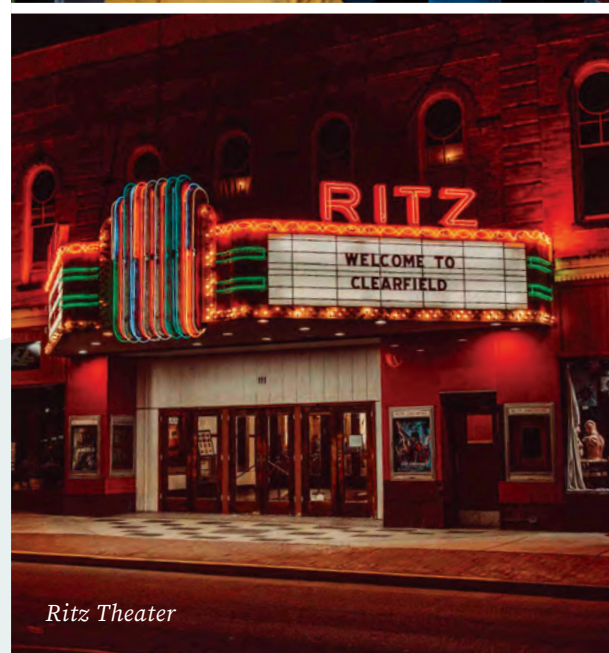
Super 322 Drive-In

Route 322 has hosted this single-screen drive-in since 1950, the way movie nights used to look before multiplexes took over. Carloads pay one price, making it one of the more affordable nights out for families in the county. Bring your own chairs or blankets if you'd rather sit outside the car, and get there early for a good spot as the sun goes down.

Seasonal: April through October
1682 Woodland-Bigler Hwy, Woodland, PA



Clearfield County Fair



Ritz Theater



Clearfield Arts Studio Theatre



WHERE TO STAY

Fourth of July, downtown Clearfield

However you like to end the day, there's a place for it here: a hotel off the interstate, a cabin on the lake, or a rental with a porch and nowhere to be in the morning.

None of it takes much planning, either. Everything's close enough to the highway, the lake, or downtown that you'll spend more time out exploring than driving back to wherever you're staying.

Below is just a starting point. Scan the code for the full, up-to-date list, plus vacation rentals across the county.

Best Western Plus (Clearfield)

Award-winning stay off I-80, with an indoor pool, hot tub, fitness center, and free hot breakfast.

Holiday Inn Express (Clearfield)

On Industrial Park Rd off Route 879.

Homewood Suites (DuBois)

Full kitchens in every suite, plus free hot breakfast and a complimentary evening meal Monday through Thursday.

Hampton Inn (DuBois)

Comfortable rooms with a full breakfast, minutes from downtown DuBois.

Holiday Inn Express (DuBois)

Indoor pool, hot tub, and free breakfast, close to Route 219.



More places to stay, including cabins, cottages, and vacation rentals:
visitclearfieldcounty.org

LAY OF THE LAND

At 1,145 square miles (that's more land than the entire state of Rhode Island), it's the third-largest county in Pennsylvania by land area, sitting right where I-80 meets the Pennsylvania Wilds.

Clearfield is a short drive no matter where you're coming from.

2 hours from Pittsburgh

1 hour from State College

3 hours 45 minutes from Cleveland

4 hours from Philadelphia





Moshannon State Forest

▲ Parker Dam State Park

Penfield

DuBois

Luthersburg

Clearfield

▲ Bilger's Rocks

Curwensville

Grampian

Curwensville Lake

WEST BRANCH SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

Mahaffey

Philipsburg

Oceola Mills

Houtzdale

Coalport

Frenchville

Karthaus

YOUR WILD STARTS HERE

*You've seen what's waiting.
Here's how to start making it real.*

Bookmark the site. Follow along. Sign up for the newsletter you'll actually open. However you stay in touch, the point's the same: there's a different season, a different festival, a different reason to come back, waiting on the other side of every visit.



visitclearfieldcounty.org

Plan Your Trip

visitclearfieldcounty.org has trip itineraries, an events calendar, and everything in this guide, updated year-round.

Get the Inside Scoop

Sign up for our newsletter for seasonal trip ideas, events, and the occasional true story about an elk that turned up somewhere it really shouldn't have.

Follow Along

@**visitclearfieldcounty** on Instagram and Facebook for real-time updates, visitor photos, and proof that we're not exaggerating about the elk.

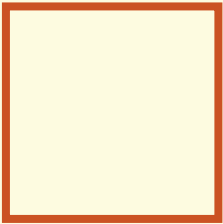
Ask a Local

Stop by the Welcome Center in downtown Clearfield for maps, trip planning, and a genuinely good conversation.

16 N 2nd St | Clearfield, PA 16830







Visit Clearfield County
16 N 2nd St
Clearfield, PA 16830

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