

STAR 2025

Pennsylvania Destinations

Piper Aviation Museum: Lock Haven, PA

The Piper Aviation Museum is about 28 miles north of Williamsport and makes a great short stop as you explore the fantastic roads the PA Grand Canyon area has to offer. This small but worthwhile museum celebrates the history and birthplace of the Piper Aircraft Corporation and the iconic Piper Cub aircraft.

Knoebels Amusement Resort: Elysburg, PA

Knoebels Amusement Resort is America's largest free admission amusement park and is about 45 miles southeast of Williamsport. It is open every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in October with Halloween themed food and fun. You might be surprised to hear that this is a popular motorcycle destination! You can walk around the beautiful, wooded amusement park for free and pay-as-you-go for any food or rides you want to partake in. The park has actually become known for its interesting and fun variety of food offerings and sweet treats. The train ride, 1913 carousel with brass rings to catch, haunted house, and wooden rollercoasters are among the most popular rides to sneak in on a quick visit.

Hyner View State Park Lookout Over PA Grand Canyon: North Bend, PA

About 55 miles northwest of Williamsport, you will find Hyner View State Park with a lookout point that captures the most notable views of the PA Grand Canyon. This area is surrounded by great on-road and off-road riding and makes a great place for stretching the legs and taking in the views during a full day of riding the mountain roads.

Centralia, PA

If you want to visit a town that has disappeared, Centralia is just 56 miles from Williamsport. An underground mine fire that ignited in 1962 is still burning today, and on a cool day you can see the smoke rising up from the ground as well as the remnants of foundations and driveway entrances where houses once stood. It's easy to ride straight through and miss it, but you'll find plenty of good riding in the surrounding Anthracite coal region even if you don't catch a glimpse of the smoke.

Penn State Main Campus: State College, PA

For college football fans, Penn State Main Campus is about 64 miles southwest of Williamsport. There is NOT a home football game at Penn State during STAR weekend, but that means you might actually find reasonable parking and get to enjoy the incredible Penn State Creamery ice cream. Pennsylvania is THE state for ice cream lovers, and many would argue that the PSU Creamery is the best of the best. They will even pack half gallons in dry ice for you to take home.

Cherry Springs State Park: Caudersport, PA

If you don't mind a little bit of night riding, this state park is about 72 miles northwest of Williamsport. It is the first international dark sky park in the Eastern U.S. The park is situated on top of the mountain and facing the nucleus of the Milkyway Galaxy, making it an excellent place for stargazing and astronomy. If you do choose to explore these twisty, mountain roads after dark, be extra careful to watch out for all kinds of wildlife, including bears and porcupines!

Abandoned Nuclear Jet Engine Bunkers at Quehanna Wild Area: Driftwood, PA

About 83 miles west of Williamsport, you can explore the Quehanna Wild Area, which includes these abandoned nuclear jet engine bunkers that are a remnant of the Cold War era and are slowly being reclaimed by the surrounding forest. The bunkers were constructed and used from 1955 - 1960 as part of Eisenhower's proposed Atoms for Peace program. This is not an official nor maintained attraction, so visit at your own risk. GPS coordinates for this parking area are **41.23472, -78.19974**.

Horseshoe Curve National Historic Landmark, Altoona, PA

Train enthusiasts will enjoy a visit to the Horseshoe Curve National Historic Landmark, which is about 107 miles southwest of Williamsport. Built between 1851-1854 by the Pennsylvania Railroad, this engineering marvel was designed to provide a gentle, continuous incline that would overcome the grade of the Allegheny mountains. Rich in history and fall foliage!

Sprague's Maple Farm: Portville, NY

If you've never experienced pure maple syrup straight from the sugarhouse, Sprague's Maple Farm in Portville, NY is definitely worth the 120 mile ride each way. You can see the sap being tapped directly from the trees and enjoy absolutely delicious meals from their restaurant and pancake house open 7 days per week 8AM - 8PM. They will have fall foliage events happening during STAR weekend from 10AM - 4PM including maple cake donut sampling in the sugarhouse!

Kinzua Bridge State Park: Mount Jewett, PA

Anyone who is really itching for mileage could consider visiting Kinzua Bridge State Park in Mount Jewett, PA, which is about 130 miles northwest of Williamsport. The bridge was partially destroyed by a tornado in 2003. It has now been turned into a skywalk and has become a popular, free PA attraction. This park is open through the month of October and then will be closed until 2027, so visit while you can!