Susquehannock State Park

Susquehanna River Valley

The lower Susquehanna River Valley offers a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities including hiking, wildlife watching, boating, fishing, geocaching, picnicning, horseback riding, and environmental and cultural education.

EAST SIDE OF THE RIVER

Information on nearby attractions is available from Discover Lancaster. 800-723-8824. www.discoverlancaster.com

The Conestoga Area Historical Society Museum and Gallery depicts rural life in southwestern Lancaster County. Exhibits include the Conestoga Wagon, Blackhawk's camp, and local American Indians.

www.lancastercountymuseums.org

Tunsock Glen offers a two-mile long trail along the banks of the Tunsock Creek - a Pennsylvania Sterling River. The trail follows the Tunsock Creek. Several shaded hiking trails for hikers are located in the park to accommodate hiking clubs and horse-riding groups.

Keltas Ferry Wildflower Preserve is a popular destination for viewing more than 70 species of native wildflowers, including jack-in-the-pulpit, with inner, Drummer's breeches, and see-summer-flower.

www.lancastercountymuseums.org

WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER

Information on nearby attractions is available from the York County Convention and Visitors Bureau. www.yorkpa.com

The Mason-Dixon Trail is a 193-mile, blue-blazed walking trail for South Baltimore and scenic areas of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland. Beginning near Lock 12, about 15 miles of this trail follow the Susquehanna River on the York County side and pass over US Route 501 North. www.masondixontrail.org

The Indian Steps Museum housed in historic Bowyer House over 10,000 American Indian artifacts. The Museum and Craft Studio exhibits sit along the Susquehanna River and was the first American Indian museum to be opened.

www.indianssteps.org

Boisford White Water Park offers experienced kayakers the opportunity to experience serious waves on the Susquehanna River. Information on whitewater and water releases can be found on their Facebook page.

Deck 12 Historic Area is a restored lock of the Susquehanna and Tidewater Canal built between 1836 and 1849 for commerce between the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. The site also includes a restored lighthouse.

Samuel S. Lewis State Park near Wrightsville, York County, offers picnicking, hiking, disc golf, and opportunities to surf serious waves on the Susquehanna River. Information on whitewater and water releases can be found on their Facebook page.

Wildlife Watching

Overlooks are great places to see birds from an unusual angle: from above! Bald eagles, osprey, and the more common turkey and black vultures regularly patrol the sky by the Hawk Point Overlook on the east side of the river. This is a popular wetland and the overlooks of the park provide great views of migrating birds, ducks, geese, geese, sandhill cranes, and shorebirds.

Many islands can be seen from Hawk Point Overlook, including Mount Joseph Island, the world's first bald eagle sanctuary. From the overlook, the island is downwind on the far left. Mount Joseph Island landfilling notions for many years. Today, the island is surrounded by the Susquehanna River.

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