







PIKE LAKE LOOP

30.2 Miles. Passible only in good weather. 4WD suggested. Some routes may be rough.

Leaving Bainbridge on Route 50 East, turn right onto Potts Hill Road. At the top, turn right onto Pike Lake Rd and descend into the beautiful State Park. Take time to explore the dock, beach, trails, and memorial of the Unknown Civil War Soldier. Continuing, turn right onto Egypt Hollow Road. At the dead end turn left onto Greenbrier Rd. As you move onto State Forrest roads, take in the beautiful, peaceful scenery. Once you past LB Campground, go right at the fork in the road and wind your way back down from the ridge. At the bottom, turn left onto Auerville Rd and then a guick right onto Fire Tower Rd. You'll be crossing Ohio's Buckeye Trail as you pass the blue blazes. Right onto Green Ridge and then a quick left onto Latham Hill Rd at the Old Fire Tower. Decend the hill into Latham. Turn right onto SR 124N. Turn right at the State Fish Hatchery onto Lapperell Rd. To the right you'll find the Park Office for Pike State Forrest. Enjoy your ride through Southern Ohio's Mennonite Country as you make your way to SR 41. At 41 a variety of Mennonite businesses (including a bakery) will be to the left. Turn right to continue your journey back to Bainbridge. At the dead-end turn right onto US 50 E and then reenter the friendly village of Bainbridge. You'll pass the Dental Museum on the left, home of the first College of Dentistry in the United States.

BUCKSKIN HILLS LOOP

29.8 Miles

Proceed north out of Bainbridge on Route 41. En route you will pass through Humbolt where Spout Spring is located on the right. Continue on Rt. 41 North through Fruitdale to power plant on left. Turn right onto Lower Twin Road. You will go through the Buckskin Covered bridge, the only one left in Ross County. In South Salem visit the old Salem Academy, still used by the school system. The cemetery where Queen Victoria's half sister is buried is nearby. From South Salem, take Lower Twin Road to Route 50. Turn right in Bourneville on Route 50 and come back to Bainbridge through the scenic Paint Valley. Note the hills on either side as you drive along. You will also get quick glimpses of Paint Creek, for which the valley was named. Stop at Seip Mound, now a nominated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Walk the grounds to view the impressive earthworks created by the Hopewelel Moundbuilders. The mound was excavated in the 1920's and the artifacts are housed at the Ohio State Historical Society in Columbus. While here, look to the east and you will see Copperas Mountain, a formation of layers of shale, from which exudes a copperas element. Turn left back onto Route 50 as you leave and head back into the village of Bainbridge.

PAINT VISTA LOOP

29.3 Miles

Follow US 50 West out of Bainbridge to the edge of town. Turn left onto OH-41 South. Follow 41 through Southern Ohio's Mennonite Country, enjoying the many businesses and farms you will pass by. Just before you reach Ft. Hill Earthworks (a fun detour!) turn right onto OH-753. The beautiful drive up 753 will bring you past more Mennonite farms and into the Rocky Fork Lake region. At the dead-end, make a right onto US-50 East and pass through Rainsboro. Turn right onto Browning Rd. Wind down the hill and cross the bridge over Rocky Fork Creek. Turn lefto on to Cave Road. Just down Cave Rd you'll come upon Highlands Nature Sanctuary, home of some of the finest hiking trails the Midwest has to offer. Continue on to the dead-end and again make a right onto US 50 East. Make a quick left onto Rapid Forge Rd and take your time over the bridge enjoying the views of the "Rapids of Paint Creek". Once over the bridge turn right onto Falls Rd. This quiet stretch of road is home to many beautiful farms and a great place to spot an eagle as you follow scenic Paint Creek on your right. Eagle eyes will spot the Falls of Paint before you reach the end of the road, crossing Bucksking Creek and then turning right onto OH-41 to make your way back into Bainbridge.

RED BUSH LOOP

30.5 MILES

Head East from the Village of Bainbridge on US 50. Take in the beautiful scenery of the valley as you travel. Make sure to stop at Seip Mound and marvel at Copperas Mountain as you pass by. Once through the village of Bourneville, you'll turn right onto Blaine Highway, cross the bridge over Paint Creek (a great spot to see an eagle), and then make a right onto Black Run Road. At the first big bend you can make a stop at Spruce Hill, the largest walled enclosure of the Hopwell Moundbuilders. Continue along Black Run to travel through Knockemstiff. The hamlet featured in Donald Pollock's Neflix film The Devil All The Time. A right onto Baum Hill Rd takes you through prime Hopewell Boundbuilder territory as you pass the historic Baum Earthworks. Once home to great walled mounds encompassing over 60 acres. At the dead-end turn right onto Camelin Hill Rd and then left onto Spargursville. Your twisting climb up Spargursville Rd was once the route of the D,T, & I Railroad, making stops at places like Storms and Harris Station. You'll come to a dead-end just West of the town of Nipgen, once called "Possum Trot". Turn right onto Potts Hill Rd and make your way along the ridge, past several historic cemeteries, and then back down Potts Hill. A left at the dead-end onto US 50 West brings you back into the Village of Bainbridge.



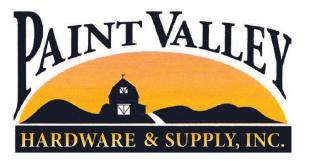








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