



Discover Hanover's Rich History Around Every Turn

Take a ride on the beautiful, scenic byways of Hanover County and discover Hanover's rich history around every turn. Our country roads provide passage over scenic rivers and railroad tracks, many curves, hills and valleys, beautiful farms and mills, and check out the historic sites and parks along the way. Travel along the same paths taken by Patrick Henry, Virginia's first elected governor, orator of "Give me Liberty or Give me Death."



VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

Ashland

VIRGINIA

visitashlandva.com

Explore our many nationally significant historic sites, trace the Virginia Civil War Trails and relish the beauty of the county.

Don't miss the hospitality and charm of Ashland, a 19th century railroad town originally developed as a resort for Richmonders. Ride down Center Street and view the lovely historic homes. Stop and dine in the unique eateries and shop at our eclectic mix of shops.

Schedule your first stop at the Ashland-Hanover Visitor Center. The Center is located on the tracks in downtown Ashland. The Center is housed in the train station designed by well-known Virginia architect, W. Duncan Lee, and built in 1923. It is at the heart of two National Register districts, which include the downtown and surrounding residential neighborhoods, and Randolph-Macon College.

Extend your stay and visit some of our modern-day sites as well. Spend the day at Kings Dominion, where you can have a different kind of ride, or at Bass Pro Shops, where you will find a replica of Virginia's Natural Bridge, a trout stream, and a 12,000 gallon salt water aquarium.



Ashland

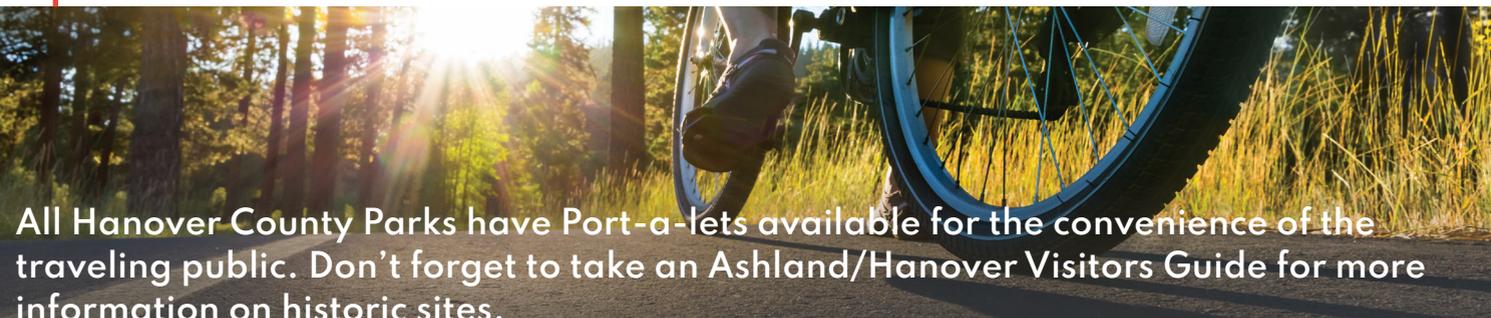
VIRGINIA

ON TWO WHEELS



Ashland/Hanover Visitors Center
112 N. Railroad Ave.
Ashland, VA 23005

(800) 897-1479 • (804) 752-6766



All Hanover County Parks have Port-a-lets available for the convenience of the traveling public. Don't forget to take an Ashland/Hanover Visitors Guide for more information on historic sites.



Beaver Trail

This is a scenic route that encompasses western Hanover County and provides lots of dips and curves.

- Stop at the Golden Deli Mart for a bathroom break, hot food, or a cool drink in their special “cave.”
- Pass the North Anna Battlefield, located off Old Ridge Road.
- Enjoy the scenic vistas along this northernmost east/west route as you head to Beaverdam.
- This historic area is host to several events throughout the year and is home to the Beaverdam Depot and Pop’s Country Store.
- Visit the Beaverdam Quik Stop for a made-to-order sandwich or ice cream cone.
- View the mill and falls on the Woodson Mill Road loop.
- Pass historic homes and beautiful horse country.
- Take a break at the Montpelier Park and visit Sycamore Tavern to trace your roots.
- Stop at the Dave and Phriends Grill for home cooking, restrooms and some real southern hospitality.
- Loop is approximately 66 miles long and provides an excellent overview of the rural parts of Western Hanover County.

War Horse

The War Horse trail takes you from the Ashland/Hanover Visitors Center through the eastern part of Hanover County and by some of the most significant civil war sites in the state.

- Mount Hermon Road is shady in the heat of the summer and very colorful in the fall.
- Pass by Slash Church, the most well-preserved wooden colonial church in the State.
- Visit Rural Plains, the circa 1723 home was used during the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek.
- Pass Polegreen Church, a site that was the center of the struggle for religious and civil liberty in the middle of the 18th century.
- Travel west on Polegreen Road to right on Walnut Grove Road. Cross Route 360 and continue to left on Creighton to left on Cold Harbor Road.
- This stretch of road leads you to many Civil War sites, including Gaines Mill National Battlefield, Cold Harbor National Battlefield and Cemetery, Watt House, and Garthright House.
- Stop at the historic Immanuel Episcopal Church, the best example of religious, Gothic-Revival-style architecture in the county.
- Enjoy the loop of Old Church Road and Piping Tree Ferry Road. Head back west following River Road to Hanover Courthouse.
- There are several great places to eat in the Hanover Courthouse area: Hanover Tavern & Pub, and Hanover Café.
- Take a tour of the Old Stone Jail, Old Hanover Courthouse and Hanover Tavern where there is a civil war exhibit.
- End your journey in Ashland where you will also find lodging, shops, restaurants and bars.



The Dangerous Dawgs

Dawg Leg West

Dawg Leg West takes you by an old mill and for a ride over a bridge, up a steep hill, around a few curves, through the woods to Old Ridge Road.

- Church Quarter will be on your right, the oldest log home in the region.
- Just down the road is Fork Church, whose regular attendees were Dolley Madison and Thomas Nelson Page.
- After a short ride on Rt. 54, there will be a couple of options for restrooms, food, fuel and drinks.
- Greenwood Church Road is one of the most scenic roads in Hanover where you will go around sharp curves, steep hills, and over the very scenic South Anna River.
- Entering the Town of Ashland, better known as the Center of the Universe, you will find unique shops and great food in the many local eateries.



The choice is yours, these three trails provide multiple mileage options. Dawg Leg West is approximately 27.8 miles, Dawg Leg east is approximately 19.3 miles and Heart of the Dawg is approximately 31.5 miles. Each has its own unique character and skill level from mostly flat with plenty of places to rest to the more strenuous hills and valleys.

Heart of the Dawg

To make this the Heart of the Dawg and a shorter ride, turn left off Old Ridge Road onto Rocketts Mill Road.

- Old Rocketts Mill has waterfalls, lovely horse country and a beautiful pond.
- In Scotchtown, take a break, visit the gift shop, and tour Patrick Henry’s house which is open on weekends March—December.
- Continue on Scotchtown crossing Rt. 54 to Greenwood Church Road. Now you are back on the Dawg Leg West Trail.

Dawg Leg East

Dawg Leg East is the shortest trail offered, but don’t think short means boring. There is plenty of curves and shade on this road, making it a welcome ride in the heat of the summer.

- Pass by Slash Church, the most well-preserved wooden colonial church in the State.
- Circa 1735, Hanover Courthouse is a classic example of colonial Virginia courthouse design.
- Across the street is Hanover Tavern and Pub, home to the Barksdale Theatre, the oldest continuously operating dinner theatre in the U.S.

