

West Virginia
State Parks and Forests

Cass Scenic Railroad

State Park



www.wvstateparks.com



A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

CASS SCENIC RAILROAD STATE PARK is an experience that will transport you to the top of one of West Virginia's highest mountains, and back in time to an era of mighty deeds and steam-driven locomotives. Your trip to Cass will be filled with the sights and sounds of the past, unparalleled views of the forested mountains and close-up encounters with logging locomotives climbing grades of up to 11 percent.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Company House Rentals

- Turn-of-the-century two-story logging company houses/one accessible
- Six-, eight-, 10-, and 12-person houses
- Open year-round
- Modern conveniences
- Televisions
- Fully equipped kitchens
- Energy efficient woodstoves and electric heaters
- Rent by the day or week (maximum rental is two weeks)
- Train discounts with stays of five nights or more

Wilderness Cabin

- The highest cabin in WV! So secluded, only our train can take you there

Private Caboose

- By reservation only
- Whittaker Station and Bald Knob
- Reservable by the trip or stay overnight on the mountain
- Two five-person maximums for overnight

RV Dry Camping

- Permitted in level parking area for a fee

RESERVATIONS

Company Houses

Reservations may be made by calling or writing Cass Scenic Railroad directly, or by dialing toll-free 1-800 CALL WVA.

When making company house reservations for four nights or more, a deposit of one-half the rental fee is required with the balance due upon arrival; for three nights or less, the full rental fee is required. If you make your reservation by telephone, you will have 10 days in which to make payment, unless it is a last-minute reservation. In case of cancellations, deposits will be returned (with the exception of a \$20 handling fee) if notice is given 30 days in advance or if the company house can be rented.

Dinner and Special Trains

In addition to the regular operating schedule, Cass offers a series of dinner train rides throughout the summer. Also, a variety of special trains are scheduled during the year. Please call in advance for exact dates and reservations.

Passenger Seating

Reservations are always advised. The Greenbrier River and Leatherbark Creek passenger cars offer reservable seating on our regular excursions to Whittaker Station, Bald Knob and Spruce for an additional fee. Private caboose rentals are offered as well. All other passenger cars offer reservable tickets, but only limited seating on a first-come, first-served basis.

Groups

Groups may charter a private train, or a private car on one of our regular excursions. Call for details.

NOTE: All policies are subject to change.



INTERPRETIVE SERVICES

Cass Showcase

- "History of Cass" audio/visual show
- Scale model of town of Cass and railroad operations

Railroad and Logging Museum

Guided Tours of Historic Buildings and Train Shops

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Hiking/Biking

- Bicycle rentals
- Nearby Greenbrier River Trail

Picnicking

- Reservable shelter

Greenbrier River

- Tubing, fishing, and canoeing

Last Run Restaurant

- Enjoy some hand-dipped ice cream or a freshly prepared meal in historic surroundings, or pick up a box lunch to enjoy on your train ride. Catering is offered for special events.



Cass Company Store

- Gift shop
- Train items



YOUR RIDE INTO YESTERYEAR

THE TOWN OF CASS remains much as it was in its heyday as a company-owned logging town starting in 1902. Restored company houses now serve as vacation rentals. From the old Company Store gift shop to Last Run Restaurant, to the Historical Museum and the Cass Showcase diorama and film, to the free guided tours of the railroad shops and town, you'll want to explore this charming town and its surrounding area for days.

The Cass Scenic Railroad was built in 1901 and used to haul lumber to the mill in Cass. The locomotives are the same ones that were used in Cass and in the lumber industry for more than a half-century. The passenger cars are old logging flat-cars refurbished and made into passenger cars. Groups can rent their own car. Small groups of 10 or fewer can rent their own caboose for a special treat kids are sure to enjoy.

Once you board the train, the real excitement begins! The pistons of the locomotive will start pulsing, driven by steam pressure. The gears begin turning, the wheels find traction, and the locomotive begins to move. With smoke belching from its stack, the train pulls away from the station, passing the old water tower from which the locomotive's tender is filled. As the train rounds the curve and starts up Leatherbark Run, you will pass the Cass Shop, where the locomotives are serviced and repaired, and a graveyard of antiquated, fascinating equipment is on sidetracks. As the pressure builds, the locomotive is driven at full steam, and the laborious journey up the mountain toward the two switchbacks begins. The loud huff of the stack, the clanking of gears, the scream of the whistle at the crossings, and the ever

THE LOCOMOTIVES OF CASS

INVENTED TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE, the Shay logging locomotive was designed to climb the steepest grades, swing around hairpin curves and negotiate frail temporary tracks. In addition, they had to haul incredibly heavy loads, from woods to mill. Power was all-important.

Back in 1911, West Virginia led the nation with more than 3,000 miles of logging railroad line. It's all gone now, except for the 11 miles at Cass, making Cass Scenic Railroad State Park one of America's only authentic operating museums of lumber railroading.



present clackety-clack of the rails will indeed make you feel as if you have been transported back in time. The train soon passes through the first switchback, reverses up a steep grade and ascends to the second switchback where the process is repeated, and then finally into the open fields and Whittaker Station. The switchback process allows the train to gain quick altitude, and in this instance, the train is traversing a grade of 11 percent, or 11 feet in altitude for each 100 feet of track. A two percent grade on conventional railroads is considered steep.

At Whittaker Station, you will have the opportunity to leave the train and enjoy more views of mountainous Pocahontas County or a peaceful picnic lunch. Visit the reconstructed logging camp Whittaker Camp #1. Here you will experience what life was like for a "wood hick" living in the woods and logging the nearby forests. Look inside the living quarters and take a guided tour of the camp car. Round trip to Whittaker Station is approximately two hours. Should you take the 4½ hour trip to Cheat Mountain, your train will proceed on to Bald Knob, West Virginia's third highest point, or Spruce, an abandoned logging town site on the banks of the Shavers Fork River. All of these trips offer majestic mountain scenery and unforgettable adventure.

Come and see!

Unlike standard steam locomotives, Shays and the similarly designed Climax and Heisler engines are driven by direct gearing to the wheels. The smooth, even flow of power enables the engines to negotiate twisting mountain grades. All three types are represented in the Cass collection, the most extensive fleet of operating, geared steam locomotives in the world.

One of the Shays (Western Maryland #6) is the last one ever built and the largest still in existence, weighing more than 162 tons. These working artifacts remain useful today as priceless and antique relics of the grand days of logging by rail. You are invited to look them over and visit our shop where they are carefully maintained to exacting standards.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Packages

- Railfan Weekend (mid-May only): photographic excursions, special tours and more
- Fiddles and Vittles Dinner Trains
- Murder Mystery Trains
- May through September (call or go online for schedule)

Fall Harvest Day

- During fall color season
- Train ride to Whittaker Station, food, games and entertainment

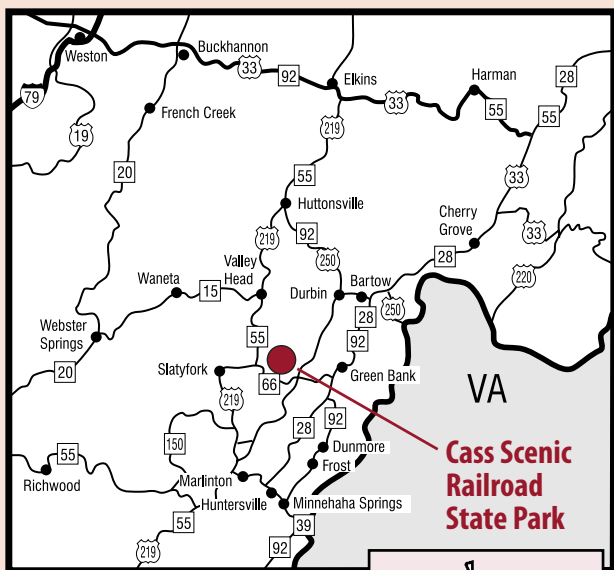
Halloween Train

- Free treats and surprises on this train for all ages. Beautiful night descent from Whittaker Station back to the depot.



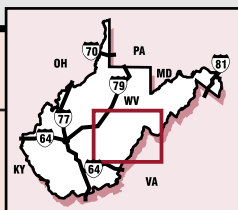
NEARBY ATTRACTIONS

- Beartown State Park
- Cranberry Glades
- Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park
- Greenbrier River Trail
- Highland Scenic Highway
- Hills Creek Falls
- Kumbrabow State Forest
- National Radio Astronomy Observatory
- Pearl Buck Birthplace (Hillsboro)
- Seneca State Forest
- Silver Creek Ski Area (at Snowshoe Mountain)
- Snowshoe Mountain Ski Resort
- Spruce Knob (State's Highest Point)
- Watoga State Park



LOCATION

Located in eastern West Virginia, Cass Scenic Railroad is accessible by state Route 28/92 between Dunmore and Green Bank in Pocahontas County. An 11-mile connector route, state Route 66, now links the town of Cass to U.S. Route 219 at Slatyfork.



CASS

scenic railroad State Park

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West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Capitol Complex, Charleston, WV 25305
**STATEMENT OF POLICY REGARDING THE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
TO USE FACILITIES AND PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS**

Visitors are responsible for observing park rules and regulations.

"It is the policy of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, accommodations, services and programs to all persons without regard to gender, race, color, age, religion, national origin or disability. Proper licenses, registration and compliance with official rules and regulations are the only sources of restrictions for facility use or program participation."

"The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is an equal opportunity employer."

Information provided in this brochure is current as of design date, but subject to change thereafter.