

Self-Guided Driving Tour of Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Loop 1 guides you through the central part of the park, and Loop 2 explores sites to the south. Along the way, you can get out of your car at the sites or take a short walk.

CONSERVANCY

for CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

forcvnp.org

BRANDYWINE FALLS, PHOTO: ANDREW GACOM

LOOP 1: Central CVNP

Allow one hour. Starting Point: 2001 West Boston Mills Road, Brecksville, 44141

A Blue Hen Falls:* Park at the main lot or across the road at the overflow lot. Walk five minutes downhill to this iconic park waterfall. Rain can make the short approach a bit slippery. Go back on Boston Mills Road, then left on Riverview Road.

B Boston Mills Ski Area: Look for this private ski area on the left as you drive north. Continue on Boston Mills Road.

C CVNP Headquarters: Look for the yellow buildings of this restored company town at Riverview and Vaughn, now park headquarters. Turn right onto Vaughn, continue onto Highland Road, right on Brandywine Road.

D Brandywine Falls:* Park in the lot and walk down the boardwalk to this spectacular falls—the tallest in the park. Historically, the falls powered a mill. Turn right on Brandywine Road, right on Hines Hill Road.

E Hines Hill Conference Center: This former farmhouse, barn, and chicken coop now serve as headquarters for the Conservancy for CVNP, the park's nonprofit friends group, as well as private event facilities. Turn right on Hines Hill Road, slight right onto Boston Mills Road, right on Stanford Road.

F Stanford House: Check out this historic farmhouse, now available for groups or

individuals to rent. Return down Stanford Road, then turn right onto Boston Mills Road.

G Village of Boston:* Park at Boston Store Visitor Center and explore this tiny village. Some highlights:

Boston Store Visitor Center:

Park information, maps, canal boat exhibits.

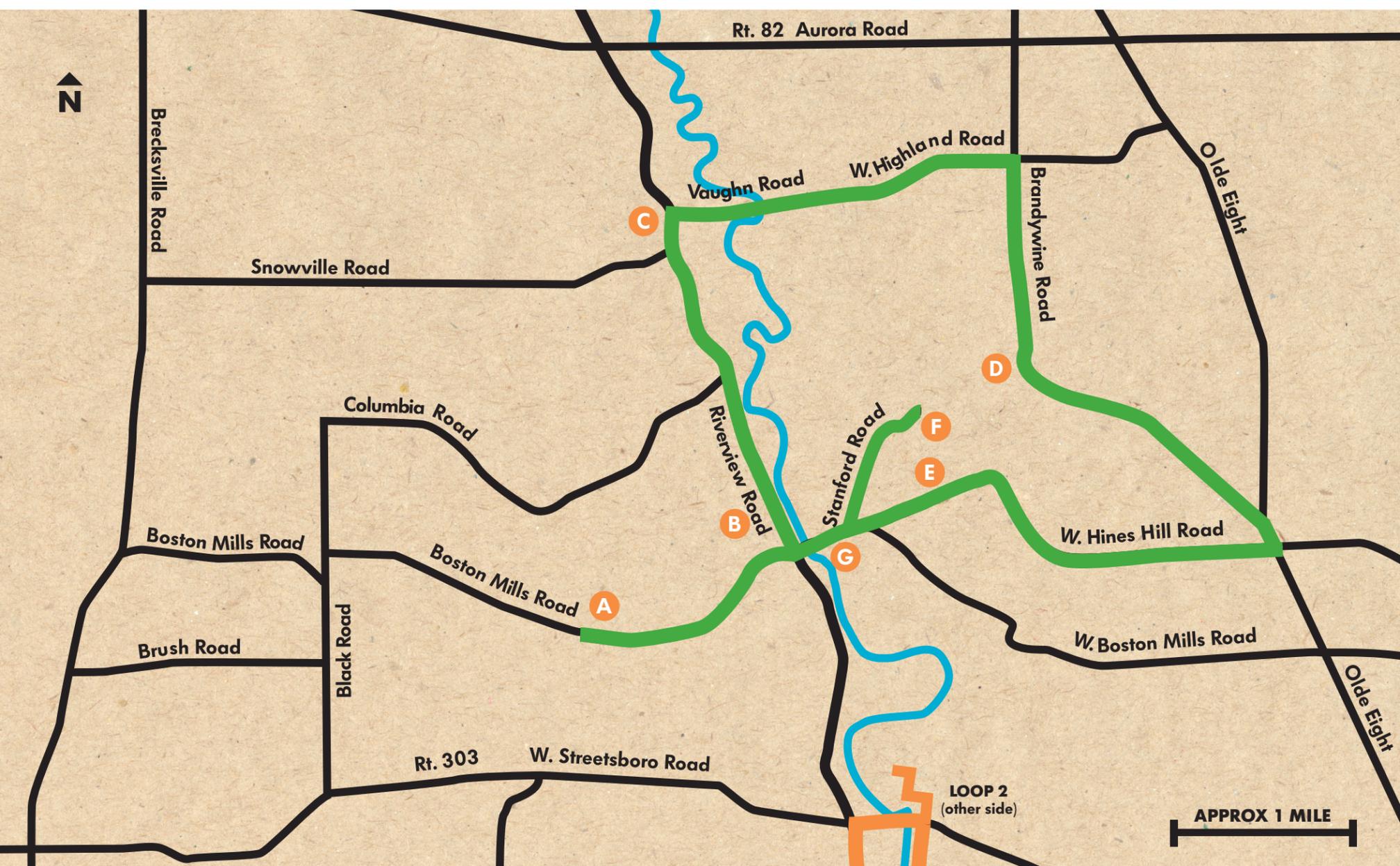
Trail Mix Boston:

Snacks, lunch, ice cream, park apparel, gifts.

Towpath Trail:

The iconic trail running through the heart of the park. Enjoy a smooth, level walk on this historic path, originally used as part of the Ohio & Erie Canal.

**Best photo ops*





LOOP 2: Southern CVNP

Allow one hour. Starting Point: Corner of Riverview Road and State Route 303/West Streetsboro Road, Peninsula, 44264

1 Peninsula: Historically, Peninsula was a canal town and a place to party for the canalers and their passengers. Start here, then continue south on Riverview Road and turn right on Major Road.

2 Greenfield Berry Farm: See an operating farm in the national park. Call ahead (330-657-2924) to pick strawberries, blueberries, or other produce in season. Turn left onto Oak Hill Road, left on Wheatley Road, then left on Everett Road.

3 Everett Covered Bridge: Park in the lot off Everett Road, then take a short walk to the bridge and exhibit over Furnace Run Creek. Turn left out of the lot, left on Everett connector, left on Everett Road, sharp right onto Oak Hill Road.

4 Hale Farm & Village: Drive by this early farm built around 1815 (open weekends only). Continue straight on Ira Road, then left on Riverview Road. Visit halefarm.org for current hours.

5 Ira Trailhead/Beaver Marsh: Park at the trailhead on the right, then walk five minutes north (left on the Towpath Trail) to the boardwalk over Beaver Marsh—a great spot for viewing birds and other wildlife, including beavers and otters. Alternatively, you can skip this stop and continue north on Riverview Road to see the marsh from the road.

6 Szalay's Farm Market: (corner of Riverview Road and Bolanz Road): Open daily 9-7 from June through October, featuring produce, pumpkins, bakery items, etc. Hunt House, a small park visitor center, is just across the Towpath Trail. Follow Bolanz Road, turn left on Akron-Peninsula Road, then turn right on Truxell Road.

7 Virginia Kendall Ledges: Turn left at the sign for Ledges Shelter and park in the first lot on the left. Walk across the parking lot to the corner where the trees open to the meadow, then walk straight across the meadow, turn left on the path on the far side, then look for signs for the overlook. Enjoy the views of the valley! Turn right out of the

parking lot, right onto Truxell Road, then right on Akron-Peninsula Road. In Peninsula, go straight through the stoplight, then follow signs for Lock 29.

8 Lock 29: Park in the lot, then check out the lock and take a one-minute walk on the Towpath Trail to the bridge over the Cuyahoga River. Walk back along the path to explore the village.

9 Peninsula: Spend some time exploring the shops and food in this historic village. Some highlights:

Trail Mix Peninsula: (across railroad tracks on left): Snacks, lunch, ice cream, park apparel, gifts.

Elements Gallery: (on Mill Street across from the train depot): Artwork including ceramics, glass, and jewelry.

Yellow Creek Trading Co.: (two-minute walk west on Rt. 303): Funky gifts, furniture, and artwork.

**Best photo ops*

