

READING &
BERKS COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA'S
AMERICANA
REGION

Pennsylvania's Americana Region Experience, The Train & Treasure Tour:

Following your visit to Philadelphia, take a short drive and discover the charm of Reading & Berks County, Pennsylvania's Americana Region. Your stop in historic Boyertown will be anything but ordinary. Beautiful turrets and gabled and peaked roofs grace the town's buildings while a colorful collection of bear statues prowl the streets. An eclectic shopping area sells everything from Taylor Backes Art Glass to retro penny candy at The Peppermint Stick Candy Shop. What it may lack in size, Boyertown makes up in nostalgic attractions like the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles and the Edwardian-era Colebrookdale Railroad. Learn about the leading U.S. combat air commander in World War II and the first chief of staff of the independent U.S. Air Force with a visit to our newest museum, the General Carl Spatz National USAAF Museum. Not to be overlooked is Boyertown's proximity to Daniel Boone Homestead. That's right, America's famous frontiersman was born in Pennsylvania's Americana Region!

Wednesday, February 5:

Pick up from Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Philadelphia

9:00 am: Transfers from Philadelphia to Boyertown (1 hour 30-minute drive)

10:30 am: Watch a hot glass demonstration and shop at the [Taylor Backes Glass Studio](#) (45 minutes)

Boyertown is the home of Taylor Backes, the original glass gallery of internationally known artists Will Dexter and Karla Trinkley, who create one-of-a-kind glass creations, limited editions, seasonal pieces, and hand-crafted jewelry. Their work has been integrated into architectural and sculptural projects, used for commercial applications, and become part of museum and private art collections in the United States and abroad. The production studio is structured to accommodate a broad spectrum of projects ranging from small, molded objects to large-scale, free-form glass sculptures.

11:30 am: Visit and tour of the [Colebrookdale Railroad](#) (1 hour)

A mythical secret valley is lost in the deep woods sheltering the Manatawny and Ironstone Creeks. Before the Colebrookdale Railroad could take you there, only white-tailed deer, great blue herons, and bald eagles experienced the beauty of this legendary land once settled by the region's frontier pioneers. The "Secret Valley Line" is your ticket to a place and time when iron rails connected a divided people. The nation's heart pulsed with the steam locomotive's potent energy, and lives were being rebuilt following the Civil War. Construction was an epic record of engineering and human drama. Ride the rails to appreciate the beauty of this area and learn of its history.

12:45 pm: Lunch at the [Grind](#) (1 hour)

Grind is where you can indulge in scratch food crafted with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Their diverse menu boasts an array of dishes guaranteed to tantalize your taste buds.

1:45 pm: Get a sweet treat at the [Peppermint Stick Candy Store & Ice Cream Parlor](#) (30 mins)

Step back in time at the Peppermint Stick, where the sweet aroma of nostalgic candy and the creamy delight of Longacre's ice cream transport you to a bygone era. Inspired by the charming ambiance of the 1940s, this candy store and ice cream parlor invites you to relive old memories and create new ones.

2:15 pm: A tour of the [General Carl Spaatz National USAAF Museum](#) (1 ½ hours)

Our newest museum, The General Carl Spaatz USAAF Museum offers a "one of a kind in the USA" interactive WW2 experience with mission briefs, flight experience and even escape rooms. Learn about Boyertown's most famous hometown hero, General Carl Spaatz, the leading U.S. combat air commander in World War II and the first Chief of Staff of the independent U.S. Air Force.

3:45 pm: Visit the [Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles](#) (1 hour)

Discover over 90 Pennsylvania-built vehicles on display—everything from wagons and carriages to bicycles and motorcycles to cars and trucks! The Museum is also home to the newly-restored 1872 Jeremiah Sweinhart Carriage Factory, where vehicle-building began in Boyertown. A functional belt-driven machine shop and a working blacksmith forge are on display in the carriage factory. Also featured in the Museum gallery—the former Boyertown Auto Body Works truck manufacturer—is a 1921 Sunoco Gas Station and the 1938 Reading Diner.

4:30 pm: Sweet treats at the Peppermint Stick Candy Store & Ice Cream Parlor (45 minutes)

Close your eyes and picture a time when things were simple, life was good, and a penny was worth something. When you walk through the Peppermint Stick Candy Store & Ice Cream Parlor doors, it's not just a store; it's an experience! You'll discover all your favorite sweets! Reminisce over the nostalgic sweets.

20-minute drive

5:30 pm: A tour of [Daniel Boone Homestead](#) (45 minutes)

Famous frontiersman Daniel Boone, who opened the American frontier across the Allegheny Mountains and into Kentucky, was born in Berks County, down the road from Mordecai Lincoln, President Abraham Lincoln's great-great-grandfather. His father, Squire Boone, a skilled weaver and blacksmith, moved to the Oley Valley in 1730. His son, Daniel, arrived in 1734 and lived here until moving to North Carolina in 1750. The Boone homestead has been restored as a living history museum, illustrating the daily lives of the region's 18th-century settlers. Discover how life in the area influenced Boone through living history demonstrations, historic tours, walks, and more.

10-minute drive

6:30 pm: Dinner at the [Yellow House Hotel](#) (1 ½ hours)

Various seafood, steak, and poultry entrées grace the menu at Yellow House Hotel, served with seasonal accompaniments from the rich bounty of the Oley Valley. Enjoy a charming dining experience in any of three tastefully decorated dining rooms. The candlelit colonial room features a walk-in fireplace and can be reserved for intimate gatherings. The front dining room sparkles with a charm reminiscent of the Victorian era, and the largest dining room, in Williamsburg décor, provides spacious accommodations for more significant occasions.

20-minute drive

9:00 pm: Hotel Check-in at the [DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel](#) in Reading.

Thursday, February 6:

8:30 am: Breakfast meet and greet with the hotel staff.

9:30 am: Depart hotel for a tour at [GoggleWorks Center for the Arts](#) (1 hour)

GoggleWorks Center for the Arts is a community art and cultural resource center in Reading, Pennsylvania. The mission of the GoggleWorks is “to transform lives through unique interactions with art.”

10:30 am: Depart for York, PA