



DAY TRIP TO NUTTALLBURG

From Fayetteville · Fayette County, West Virginia



COAL MINING



Photo: George Neat, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 4.0

NATIONAL PARK SITE

A protected historic site in New River Gorge National Park and Preserve since 1998. Reached by a narrow road and short trails.

From Fayetteville, Nuttallburg is about half an hour away, the last four miles on Keeneys Creek Road. A morning on the Tipple and Town Loop trails covers the tipple, the coke ovens and the hillside town. There are no services at the site, so bring water and lunch.

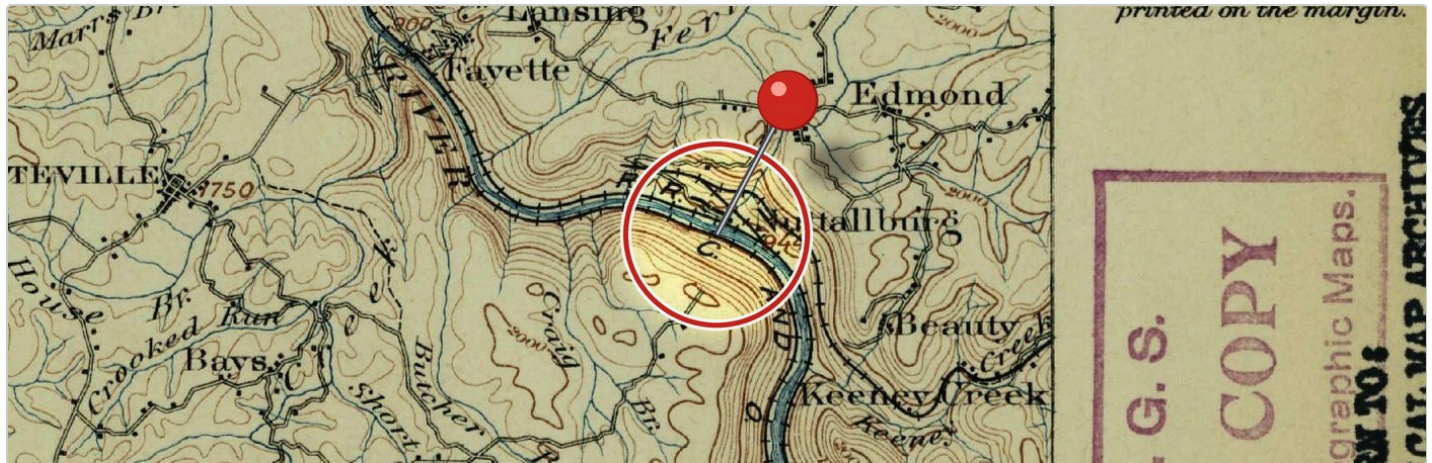
A SAMPLE DAY

- ☐ 9 a.m. Leave Fayetteville. The drive is 12.7 miles, about 34 minutes; take Keeneys Creek Road slowly.
- ☐ 9:45 a.m. From the parking area, walk back along the road past the site of the African American community and the depot, then follow the road to the tipple and coke ovens.
- ☐ 11 a.m. Climb the Town Loop Trail to the company store foundation, the school and church sites and the house piers.
- ☐ 12:30 p.m. Picnic at the car, then drive back up Keeneys Creek Road.
- ☐ Afternoon The Canyon Rim Visitor Center on US 19, on the way back to Fayetteville, is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Fit and well shod? Swap the town loop for the strenuous Conveyor Trail up to the headhouse, about 3 miles round trip and 5 to 6 hours by the Park Service's estimate.

WHAT TO PHOTOGRAPH

- **The tipple.** Shoot it from down the tracks to get the whole steel frame on its legs, as in the photos here.
- **The conveyor.** Stand under the trestle and look up the slope to show how far the coal travelled.
- **Foundations.** In late fall and winter, with the leaves down, the house piers and walls on the hillside show best.
- **Trains.** The line is active. Film from well back of the tracks.



USGS topographic map, 1897 (public domain). The ring and pin mark the town.

DAY TRIP ESSENTIALS

DRIVE	13 mi, about 34 min each way from downtown Fayetteville. From Charleston: 64 mi, about 1 h 47 min.
OPEN	The park is open year-round. The Park Service pages we read give no hours or seasonal closing for Nuttallburg itself.
ADMISSION	Free. New River Gorge National Park and Preserve charges no entrance fee.
TIME ON SITE	The Park Service's trail guide (2020) gives the Tipple Trail 0.6 mile, 45 minutes to 1.5 hours, and the Town Loop Trail 1.3 miles, 2 to 3 hours including the Tipple Trail.
RESTROOMS	The Park Service's 2020 trail guide and its 2026 directions mention a restroom at the main parking area.
FOOD AND WATER	The 2020 trail guide says there is no drinking water at Nuttallburg. Bring your own.
ON FOOT	The Tipple Trail is easy. The Conveyor Trail, about 3 miles round trip to the headhouse, is steep, narrow and hard to follow under leaves, and the Park Service rates it strenuous.
PHOTOGRAPHY	Flying drones is prohibited in the park without the superintendent's written approval (Superintendent's Compendium, July 2026). The pages we read set no other photography rules.
WEBSITE	nps.gov/neri/learn/historyculture/nuttallburg.htm

BEFORE YOU GO

- Check the status with the land manager before you go; conditions change.
- Keep out of unstable buildings and off fenced ruins.
- Leave artifacts where they lie. Removing them can be a crime.
- Carry water, a paper map and a charged phone; signal is often poor.

Coordinates 38.05000, -81.04028 · 38°03'00"N
81°02'25"W

Full guide abandonedtowns.com/west-virginia/nuttallburg/

Directions [Google Maps](#)

Details checked October 2026. Hours, prices and access change: confirm before you go.