

BERKELEY SPRINGS STATE PARK

LONG BEFORE THE FIRST EUROPEANS discovered the warm waters of Berkeley Springs, it was already a famous health mecca that attracted Indians from the St. Lawrence Seaway in Canada and the Great Lakes to the Carolinas. Those first settlers, who came in 1730, learned the uses and value of the springs from the Indians and began spreading the word of its benefits throughout the settlements of the east.

Perhaps the most notable and influential advocate of the curative powers of the springs was George Washington, who, at 16, visited them as a member of a survey party. As the party, which was surveying the western limits of Thomas Lord Fairfax's lands, camped there for the night, young Washington noted in his diary, "March 18th, 1748, We this day called to see Ye Fam'd Warm Springs."

For many years afterwards, George Washington visited the springs regularly, and it was largely through his efforts that its fame as a health spa grew throughout the colonies. At the urging of the Colony of Virginia and in the public interest, Lord Fairfax conveyed his land holdings at the springs and fifty adjacent acres to the Colony of Virginia in 1776. Shortly thereafter, the land was offered for public sale. George Washington, three signers of the Declaration of Independence, four signers of the Constitution, seven members of the Continental Congress, and five Revolutionary generals were among the prominent colonists who made initial purchases there. Hence, the springs' reputation as a health resort became firmly established.

Borrowing the name of a famous counterpart in England, the General Assembly of Virginia formed the town of Bath on this location in 1776 and created a board of trustees to govern the new town. James Rumsey, who later invented the first successful steamboat, was then contracted to construct five bath houses and several other public buildings. This officially established the springs as a resort facility.



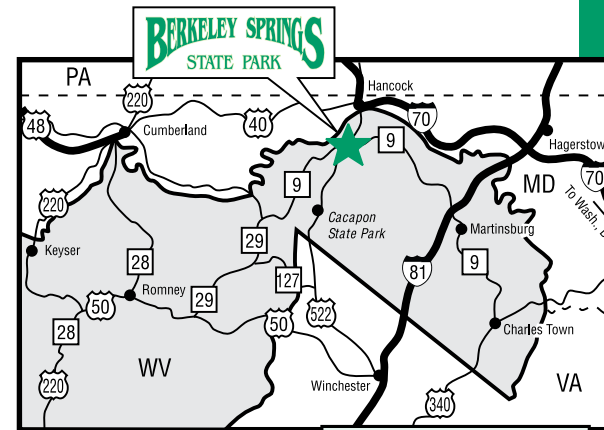
The Springs

Located in a narrow valley about 620 feet above sea level, the springs issue from the base of a steep ridge. The springs originate from five principle sources, all within a hundred yards, with approximately 2,000 gallons of clear, sparkling water discharging per minute at the uniform and invariable temperature of 74.3 degrees Fahrenheit.

Park Schedule

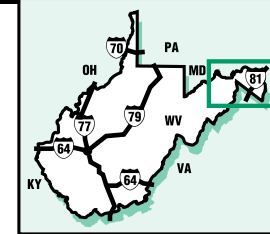
The Main Bathhouse and the Old Roman Bath Building are open year-round, Monday through Sunday, with the exception of Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, New Year's Day and Easter Sunday. Hours of operation may vary with the seasons; please contact the park office for details.

A gift shop and historical museum are open for guests. During the summer season, a swimming pool is available for the use of park guests.



How To Get There

Located in the eastern panhandle of West Virginia. From major east/west highway I-70 (Hancock, MD), take US 522 south six miles to the park. From the south, the park is accessible from north/south I-81, by taking US 522 north at Winchester, VA, and traveling 34 miles to the park. Locally, WV 9 provides access to and from the Martinsburg area, I-81 and several nearby attractions.



BERKELEY SPRINGS STATE PARK

2 South Washington Street
Berkeley Springs, West Virginia 25411
(304) 258-2711

1-800-CALL WVA
www.berkeleyspringsp.com

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."

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www.wvstateparks.com 1-800-CALL WVA

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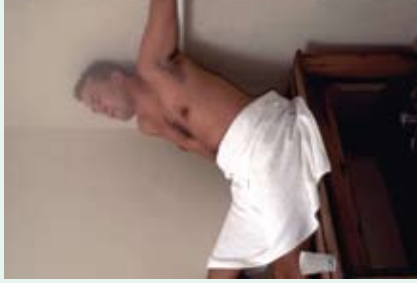


Wild and Wonderful
West Virginia
State Parks & Forests

Treatments

Access to the springs and the water remains free as directed by Lord Fairfax, but nominal fees are charged for the baths and other services. The baths consist of two types, the conventional bathtub familiar to most and the Roman baths. In short, the Roman bath is an individual sunken pool lined with tile holding 750 gallons of water. Steps descend into the pool where the bather can soak in therapeutic waters. There are 13 Roman baths in the park and five of the conventional tubs. If desired, guests should provide their own shower caps, slippers and bathing suits.

In addition to the baths, Berkeley Springs State Park offer various forms of physiotherapy including infrared heat, steam cabinets and massage. A professional massage staff is available to serve the park visitor.



Spring Water

Mineral Content	Grains per U.S. Gallon
Sodium Chloride	0.142
Sodium Sulphate	0.598
Sodium Nitrate	0.026
Potassium Sulphate	0.116
Calcium Sulphate	0.572
Ferrous Carbonate	0.005
Magnesium Carbonate	1.110
Strontium Carbonate	trace
Alumina	0.045
Silica	0.496
Ammonium Chloride	absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0012
Organic Matter	0.275
Total	10.1102

Gases	Cubic Inches per Gallon
Free Carbonic Acid	2.2 cu. in.
Carbonic Acid in Bicarbonates	7.14 cu. in.
Dissolved Oxygen	0.41 cu. in.

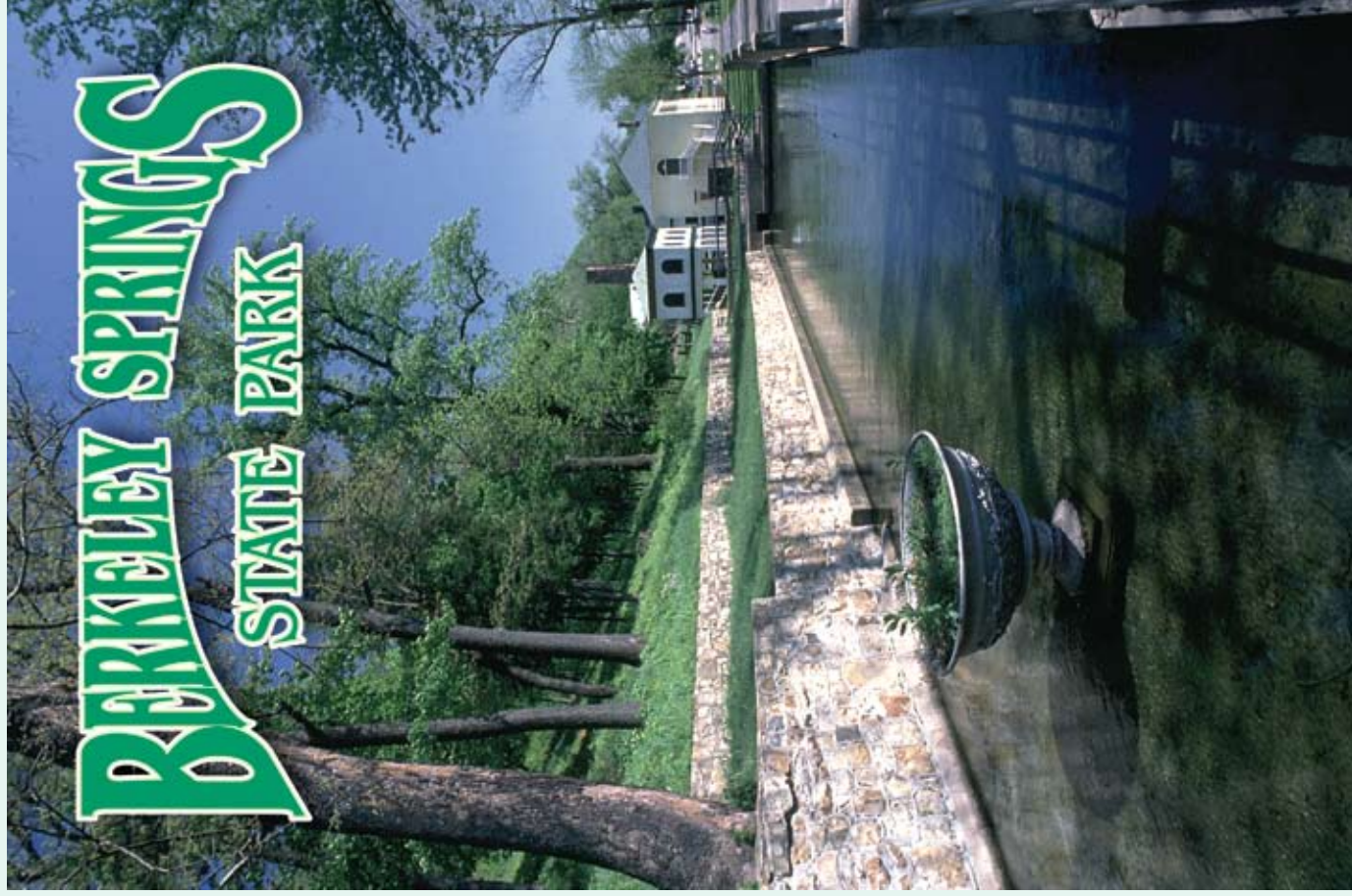
Reservations Bath and Spa

To make reservations, call Berkeley Springs State Park directly or by dial (toll free)

1-800-CALL WVA

and ask for Berkeley Springs State Park. This toll-free line may be used anywhere in the continental U.S.

Reservations are accepted in advance; a deposit is required. In case of cancellations, deposits will be returned if notice is given 24 hours in advance. Otherwise, your deposit will be forfeited. In the case of reservations guaranteed with a credit card, your account will be charged (Visa, American Express, MasterCard, Discover and Diners Club are accepted). **Reservations will be held for only five minutes beyond time scheduled.**



Wireless Hot Spot

Visitors to Berkeley Springs State Park can send e-mails or surf the Web for free thanks to a wireless hot spot that covers the park.

The Museum of Berkeley Springs collaborating with the Washington Heritage Trail received a cultural tourism grant from the West Virginia Cultural Heritages Development Program that included funds for making the Museum a wireless hot spot.

Nearby Attractions

- Berkeley Castle
- Cacapon Resort State Park
- Charles Town Race Track
- C&O Canal
- Harpers Ferry National Historical Park
- Historic Shepherdstown
- Prospect Peak scenic overlook
- Sleepy Creek Public Hunting & Fishing Area
- Ridge Fish Hatchery

Nearby Accommodations

Cacapon Resort State Park

- 48-room lodge
- 12-room Old Inn
- 13 modern cottages
- two accessible cabins
- 12 standard cabins
- six bungalow cabins
- special winter spa packages

with Berkeley Springs State Park

Reservations may be made by calling (304) 258-1022 or 1-800-CALL WVA, or by going online to www.cacaponresort.com.

