

McDowell Battlefield Drive

Driving Time: 20 minutes - Distance: 10 miles

Travel east on Route U.S. 250 from Monterey to McDowell. Pass the McDowell Presbyterian Church on the right and continue east across the Bullpasture River. Watch for the historical marker and Sitlington Hill on your right. The Battle of McDowell, fought at Sitlington Hill on May 8, 1862, marked the first of Confederate General "Stonewall" Jackson's successes during the famous Valley Campaign. The trailhead of the path to the top of Sitlington Hill is located ¼ mile past the historical marker, on the right, at a small parking lot.

Points of Interest

- Highland County Museum & Heritage Center
- Sugar Tree Country Store
- McDowell Presbyterian Church, built in 1856, it served as a hospital for both Union & confederate troops during the Battle of McDowell
- A Civil War Trails interpretive sign, facing Rt. 678, next to the church
- Sitlington Hill historical marker
- McDowell Battlefield Trail

Bullpasture & Cowpasture Valleys via the Bullpasture Gorge Drive

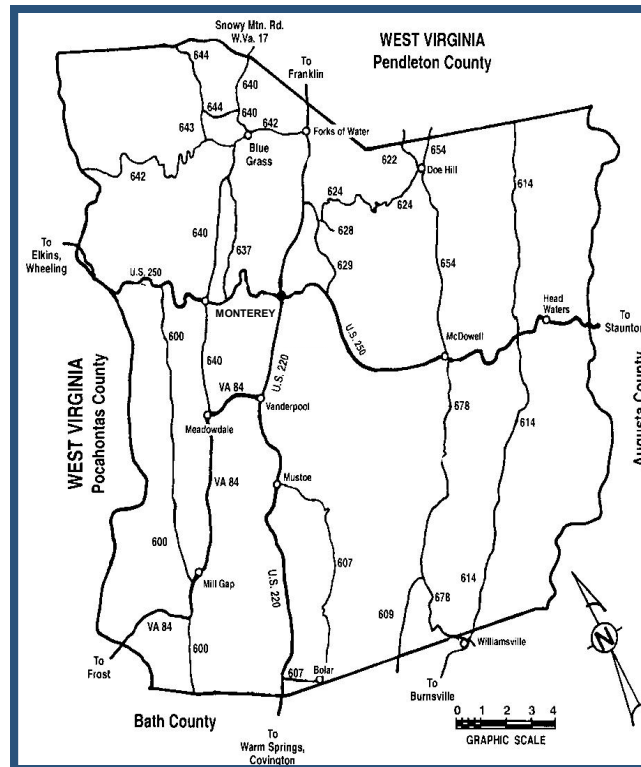
Driving time: 2½ hours - Distance: 63 miles

Travel east on Route U.S. 250 from Monterey to McDowell. Turn right onto Rt. 678 at the McDowell Presbyterian Church. Follow this route south for approximately 14 miles through the beautiful Bullpasture Valley to Williamsville.

Turn left on Rt. 614 at Williamsville and follow a well-graded, gravel road for approximately 12 miles north through the Cowpasture Valley. At Route U.S. 250, turn west to return to Monterey.

Points of Interest

- Highland County Museum & Heritage Center
- SugarTree Country Store
- McDowell Presbyterian Church
- Fort George on the Bullpasture across from the McClung Farm Historic District.
- The Bullpasture Gorge is a scenic stretch along the Bullpasture River with public parking and picnic facilities (no camping).
- Sitlington Hill historical marker.
- McDowell Battlefield Trail.



Blue Grass Valley & Snowy Mountain Drive

Driving time: 1 hour - Distance: 23 miles

Travel north on Route U.S. 220 from Monterey, past the Virginia Trout Company, and turn left on Rt. 642 (approximately 6 miles). Follow Rt. 642 along the South Branch of the Potomac River to the village of Blue Grass (about 2½ miles). Turn right onto Rt. 640 in Blue Grass and continue across the mountain to West Virginia Rt. 17 (Snowy Mountain Road). Turn right, follow Rt. 17 for 3 miles, and turn right again onto Route U.S. 220 south to Monterey.

Points of Interest

- Blue Grass Book Bank
- Ginseng Mountain Store, at the junction of U.S. 220 and Rt. 642.
- Virginia Trout Company, open 7 days from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Blue Grass Valley Drive

Driving time: 1 hour - distance: 30 miles

Travel north on Route U.S. 220 from Monterey, past the Virginia Trout Company, and turn left on Rt. 642 (approximately 6 miles). Follow Rt. 642 along the South Branch of the Potomac River to the village of Blue Grass (2 1/2 miles). Follow Rt. 640 through town and southwest into the Blue Grass Valley to Hightown. Turn left at Hightown onto Route U.S. 250 and follow the road east across the mountain to Monterey.

Points of Interest

- New Hampden Mill, located just west of the village of New Hampden on Rt. 640.
- Puffenbarger's and Rexrode's Sugar Orchards, on Rt. 637. Both open to the public during Maple Festival.

Big Valley & Bolar Springs Drive

Driving time: 1¼ hour - distance: 34 miles

Travel south on Route U.S. 220 from Monterey to Mustoe (7 miles). Turn left across the bridge onto Rt. 607 and enjoy a scenic loop through Big Valley to Bolar. Continue south on Rt. 607, cross the Jackson River, and turn right onto US 220 north to Monterey (approximately 16 miles).

Points of Interest

- Southernmost Maple Products on Rt. 607 near Bolar (sugar camp & shop are open to the public).
- Bolar Natural Mineral Springs.

Back Creek Valley Drive

Driving time: 1 1/2 hour - distance: 36 miles

Travel west on Route U.S. 250 from Monterey. Cross Monterey Mountain to Hightown. Continue west across Lantz Mountain on U.S. 250 and turn left on Rt. 600. The road is well-graded gravel for several miles before it becomes paved. It meanders through woods and farmland before it T-junctions with Rt. 84. Turn left onto Rt. 84, and left again at Route U.S. 220 to return to Monterey.

Points of Interest

- Hevener's General Store at junction of U.S. 250 and Rt. 640.
- Beaver dams at the junction of U.S. 250 and Rt. 600.

Bullpasture Valley & Doe Hill Drive

Driving time: 1 1/2 hour - distance: 29 miles

Travel east on Route U.S. 250 from Monterey to McDowell. Turn left onto Rt. 654 in McDowell and follow the Bullpasture

Valley north to Doe Hill (about 6 1/2 miles). Turn left at Doe Hill onto Rt. 624 and follow the road across Jack Mountain (about 7 1/2 miles). NOTE: This is a remote, dirt road that is rough and single lane in places; however, it is fine for automobile travel during most of the year. *Do not use this road in heavy rain or snow without 4W Drive!*

Points of Interest

- Sugar Tree Country Store
- Eagle's Sugar Camp, on Rt. 624 in Doe Hill. The sugar camp is open to the public during the Highland Maple Festival.

Other brochures

Barn Quilts of Highland County
Discover Highland County Brochure
Lodging Brochure
Staunton-to-Parkersburg Driving Tour Brochure
Virginia's Western Highlands Trail Guide
Virginia's Western Highlands Birding Trails
Virginia's Western Highlands Wild Flowers Trails
Walking Tour of Historic Monterey

For more information contact
Highland County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 223 · Monterey, VA 24465
(540) 468-2550
highcc@cfw.com · www.highlandcounty.org

Discover Highland County Scenic Driving Tour



Photo by Amy Middleton

Discover Virginia's
Best Kept
Mountain Secret.....