

# Gentle Beasts, Southern Eats and Dancing Beats

Eastern Kentucky in April, September, October and Early November

You will see Elk in their natural habitat in the Appalachian Mountains? We will customize your tour with spectacular views, history, music, a little bit of moonshine and lots of entertainment!



Kentucky is now considered the “Elk Capital East of the Rockies”

On this tour, you have the benefit of being accompanied by a knowledgeable naturalist, who can provide you with all kinds of information on the elk, as well as any other wildlife you might spot. The elk, which live in herds and like to graze on open land during the day and sleep in the protection of the forest at night, were introduced onto grasslands created through surface mine reclamation projects. The elk are entirely wild, not bounded by fences, and free to move throughout the region as they wish. Although no one knew exactly how the elk would fare in Kentucky, they have thrived remarkably. Thanks to an absence of predators and an abundance of food, the elk population has grown to an estimated size of 10,000, making it the largest population east of the Rocky Mountains.



Your journey begins with a stay at **Jenny Wiley Resort** in which you will experience the secluded beauty of the 49-room **May Lodge** with all rooms overlooking **Dewey Lake** and surrounded by towering pines and peaceful mountains. Every room has a balcony with a view of the lake. Upon arrival to the scenic lodge, imagine being **greeted with wine and cheese** and learning the story of a legendary pioneer woman born in 1760 name **Jenny Wiley** from a re-enactor.



Early morning on the lake is pristine and calming when you will enjoy a narrated **pontoon boat ride** on Dewey Lake. Guests will be enthralled with the Naturalists as they give the history of the area and **about the entire city under the lake!**



How would you like to start the morning rocking to some of your favorite Elvis songs like “Blue Suede Shoes” and “Blue Moon of Kentucky”? You can do just that while dining on a delicious southern breakfast as you have your “**Eggs with Elvis**” breakfast with a local singer, songwriter and guitarist.

Experience a catered southern dinner with live entertainment at the **US 23 Country Music Highway Museum** - This museum in Paintsville, Kentucky is dedicated to the country music entertainers who were born or lived near U.S. Route 23 in eastern Kentucky. **Entertainers exhibited within the museum** include Billy Ray Cyrus, The Judds, Tom T. Hall, Ricky Skaggs, Hyla Brown, Loretta Lynn, Crystal Gayle, Rebecca Lynn Howard, Keith Whitley, Dwight Yoakum, Patty Loveless, Gary Stewart and Chris Stapleton. After your dinner, you will be entertained by local entertainers doing the famous songs of these “Stars of the Country Music Highway”.



**Visit the town of Wayland** which is an old coal camp town where hospitality reigns. Guests will be greeted by the Mayor, educated by a former miner and will step back in to American Graffiti when enjoying a 50's style diner with a Coke machine and jukebox. Then dine on burgers, fries and milkshakes while listening to the music of the 50's from the juke box at your very own Sock Hop.



You will explore the charm of the beautiful downtown area of Prestonsburg, Kentucky when you do a **Grab Bag Scavenger hunt of local shops**. You will also get a chance to tap into your artistic side when you **make your own scrapbook** complete with photos of places that you have visited during your stay in Eastern Kentucky. Don't worry gentleman, you will have your own special activity with a Park Naturalist while the ladies enjoy scrapbooking. You will build your own bluebird birdhouse!



You can't come to Prestonsburg, Kentucky and not partake in a little bit of moonshine! Your group will be given a demonstration by "Uncle Shine" (actually, non-alcoholic, water only) on the **Moonshine Hide-A-Way and tour**. Entertainment is provided by **The Shiners they take up their instruments and sing a couple of Moon Shine songs** and there is plenty of foot-stompin' dancing. This will be followed by a meal of BBQ chicken and BBQ spare ribs and all the "fixin's", moonshine tasting and continued entertainment from The Shiners.



Enjoy a **visit to Loretta Lynn's Butcher Hollow Home Place**. First guests will enjoy a stop at **Webb's Grocery**, owned by Loretta's brother, Herman. It is still a grocery store dating back to 1910. There are souvenir shirts and caps here to purchase and you will enjoy a **snack of a RC Cola and a moon pie** that is included. After boarding a shuttle to the house, guests will learn about the life of Loretta Lynn, her family and her famous sister Crystal Gayle and details of what it was like living there 60 years ago.

**East Kentucky Science Center and Planetarium** - features an "out-of this world" experience for all ages. Outer space comes alive when you view the most realistic night sky simulation in the world and will marvel at the universe's 8,500 stars. An exciting feature at the Planetarium is the laser light show set to music. The Center features a gift shop and rotating hands-on science projects displayed in the lobby.



**Van Lear Coal Mining Museum** - The Coal Miners' Museum is located in the building that originally housed the headquarters of the Consolidation Coal Company. Displays include coal mining tools, a restored "company" doctor's office, a post office, a 1950's snack bar, a diorama of the town as it was in the 1930's, the old town jail, and much more. **You can even add a "miner's lunch" to this experience.**



**Ohio Travel Treasures can customize your entire tour based upon your time and location with stops included that will be based upon your departure point. Call us at 1-800-582-5997 or 513-923-9112 or email Diane Sphar at [dms@ohiotraveltreasures.com](mailto:dms@ohiotraveltreasures.com)**

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