

TIPS ON TRIPS

Planning A Trip To Remember

(NAPSA)—Sometimes the road less traveled leads to the best vacations.

For instance, outdoor enthusiasts, backpackers and those simply looking for an unforgettably relaxing time might want to check out The Alleghenies, a string of strikingly beautiful mountains nestled in the heart of south-central Pennsylvania.

The mountains offer activities ranging from world-class fishing, boating and bird-watching to bicycle and motorcycle trails, historical day trips and more. Here's a closer look at what vacationers can expect:

No Fish Tale

Anglers have long been hooked on The Alleghenies. In fact, the Pennsylvania state record for a striped bass, with a weight of 53 pounds, was landed at Raystown Lake—which has the notoriety of being named one of America's 25 Hottest Fishing Spots by Field & Stream.

Make A Splash

The area's Stonycreek is an adrenaline-packed Class III – IV whitewater river where kayakers can be found playing in the many holes that punctuate the rapids. American Whitewater magazine ranked this river as one of the top-five whitewater destinations in the country. The area also offers a number of activities for tubers, water-skiers, scuba divers and others.

Take A Spin

Cyclists will be happy to learn that The Alleghenies hosted the 1992 Olympic Road Trials and was named one of the "five top bicycle areas in the country" by Bicycling magazine. Additionally, Rothrock State Forest in The



Vacationers can find world-class biking, boating, hiking and fishing at one mountain getaway.

Alleghenies has an International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA)-designated Epic trail—one of only 43 in the nation.

The Great Outdoors

The Alleghenies is a birding and nature-viewing hot spot with more than 1,000 species of wildlife in its natural habitat. It also offers more than 60 hikes with trails ranging in distance from ½ mile to more than 30 miles in length.

Start Your Engines

Motorcyclists looking for a great riding experience may want to check out the region's seven motorcycle tours, or the annual Thunder in the Valley rally, an event attended by nearly 150,000 bikers and spectators.

A Taste Of History

The Johnstown Flood Museum, the Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site and other family-friendly activities can be a fascinating way to take a trip into the region's storied past.

For more information, visit www.thealleghenies.com or call (800) 458-3433.