

Spiritual Journey to Cumberland

Day trip

Travel aboard a deluxe highway coach south into Western Maryland. Rest and meal stops will be made periodically. By mid-morning we arrive in Cumberland, nestled in the Allegheny Mountains on the banks of the Potomac River. Visit the Church of St. Patrick, the Mother Church of Western Maryland. Founded in 1790 St. Patrick parish was the first Roman Catholic parish established in western Maryland and is one of the oldest parishes in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Prince Gallitzin served as St. Patrick's third pastor before settling north in Loretto, PA. Celebrate Mass and enjoy a guided tour of this lovely church. Following a lunch break, we embark on a scenic tour through downtown Cumberland. Loaded with 250 years of history, Cumberland was not only site of Fort Cumberland during the French & Indian War, but later became the gateway to the west with the construction of the first federal road, railroads, and the C&O Canal. Highlights include the site of Fort Cumberland, George Washington's Headquarters and the historic Washington Street district. Visit the Gordon-Roberts House and enjoy a soothing cup of tea, served by an elegantly costumed docent, and embark on a memorable journey back in time. This middle-class home was built for Josiah Hance Gordon, a prominent Cumberland attorney and President of the C & O Canal. Later this afternoon we stop at historic SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church, founded in 1848 by Saint John Neumann, the first American male saint. Leaving Cumberland we motor west along the historic National Road past the Toll Gate House. Built in 1833 the building was used to collect tolls along the first federally funded highway in our country. Continue along scenic Route 40 to Grantsville, Maryland for a delicious group dinner at Penn Alps Restaurant. Later today we leave Western Maryland and begin our journey home.

*Travel Arrangements made by Wendt Touring
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