

**Foxfire Cabin** - Mountaintop cabin on 8.5 secluded acres. Family vacation or romantic getaway. Log burning fireplace creates a cozy place to rest. Enjoy a forest vacation. (814) 786-7048 • 11701 Route 3002, Sigel, PA 15860 • Foxfire-Cabin.com

**Gizmo's Bed and Breakfast** - A restful retreat in the heart of the Allegheny National Forest Region. Nestled in a rustic setting on 30 private acres of beautifully landscaped property. (814) 929-9978 • 108 Gizmo Drive, Wilcox, PA 15870 • GizmosBedAndBreakfast.com

**Gunners Restaurant & Inn** - 24 guest rooms, full restaurant and bar, weekend entertainment once a month. Banquet & meeting facilities. Eat, drink, sleep. (814) 834-2161 • 33 South Saint Marys Street, St. Marys, PA 15857 • GunnersPA.com

**Hazelnut Cottage** - Charming modern one-bedroom cabin with a king-size bed, full kitchen, porch and more. Convenient to Benezette attractions in the heart of Elk Country. (814) 787-4977 • 24 Front Street, Benezette, PA 15821 • HazelnutCottageBZ.com

**Holiday Inn Express and Suites** - Heated indoor pool, fitness area, deluxe suites, meeting room. Complimentary continental breakfast. Free local calls. (814) 834-2030 • 195 Comfort Lane, St. Marys, PA 15857 • HolidayInn.com

**Laurel Ridge River Cabin** - Overlooking the Clarion River. Romantic getaway with fireplace. Watch the mist rise off the river. Bike the River Road. Memories made here. Enjoy the forest. (814) 786-7048 • 3229 River Road, Sigel, PA 15860 • Foxfire-Cabin.com

**MacDarvey Castle** - Mountaintop retreat in the heart of elk country. Spacious accommodations with 5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms and large deck with fire pit overlooking elk feeding fields. (814) 787-5356 • 153 Elk Terrace, Benezette, PA 15821 MacDarveyCastle.com

**Medix Hotel** - 7 charming guest rooms, coffee bar, wifi, A/C, ATM, covered deck, resident ghost "Victoria", Presidents Garfield & Roosevelt have slept here. Dubbed the "Funnest" bar. (814) 787-5920 • 23155 Quehanna Highway, Benezette, PA 15821 Facebook.com/MedixHotel

**Medix Run Lodges and Cabins** - Fully furnished lodges and overnight efficiency cabins in the heart of Elk Country. We are in the business of relaxation. Only 3 miles from Benezette. (814) 787-5214 • 1997 Rock Hill Road, Weedville, PA 15868 • MedixRunLodges.com

**Muddy Creek Meadows Elk Lodge** - New rental unit in Benezette, Elk County with kitchenette, sleeps 6-8 people. Primitive camping & horse sites available. Like us on Facebook. (717) 927-3023 • 139 Trout Run Road, Benezette, PA 15821 MuddyCreekMeadows.com/muddy-creeks-elk-lodge/

**Murphy House 1895** - Cordial lodging for the distinguished traveler. Featuring facinating architectural details and 3 great rooms with private baths. (908) 334-9039 • 111 East Avenue, Ridgway, PA 15853 • MurphyHouse-Ridgway.com

**Nuthatch Lodge** - A rustic clean cabin in the prime elk viewing area near the bottom of Gray Hill, spacious kitchen, sleeps 6. Watch elk from your porch. (814) 787-4004 • 8748 Route 555, Weedville, PA 15868

**Palumbo Lodge & Event Center** - A beautiful venue perfect for your outdoor wedding, family gathering, or getaway. On-site lodge and new, large pavilion located in the heart of Elk Country. (814) 371-7570 • 26949 Caledonia Road, Weedville, PA 15868 PalumboLodge.com

**Pine Ridge Farm BNB & Special Event Center** - Working Farm established in 1876; our barn and beautiful grounds are perfect for weddings or special events. B&B or dorm rooms available for wedding guests. (814) 776-6508 662 Kemmer Road, Kersey, PA 15846

**Royal Inn** - Share our "hometown" brand of hospitality in this charming country inn. Lodging, dining, lounge & banquet facilities. Dining Room open Monday - Saturday 4:30 - 9:30p.m. (814) 773-3153 • 17089 Boot Jack Road, Ridgway, PA 15853 • RoyallInnPA.com

**Ruffo Lodge** - 1.5 miles from Elk Country Visitor Center. Quiet location next to woods. Sleeps 12, full kitchen, DISH TV, wifi, fire pit, grill. Linens included. Pet friendly with deposit. (814) 787-4000 • 182 Front Street, Benezette, PA 15821 • BenezetteWines.com

**The Schoolhouse** - Fully furnished cabin. Queen bed, full bath, fully equipped kitchen, A/C, satellite TV. Overlooks Winslow Hill Elk Viewing Area. Two minute drive to Visitors Center. (814) 787-4212 • 2313 Winslow Hill Road, Benezette, PA 15821 • WinslowHillBB.com

**Sleeping Elk Lodge** - Private modern lodge in the heart of elk country. View elk from dining room. Central air, DISH TV, VCR. Fishing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, & more. (717) 859-4886 • 8722 Route 555, Benezette, PA 15821 • SleepingElkLodge.com

**Sleeping Horse Lodge** - Situated in the heart of elk country this beautiful lodge is handicap accessible and close to the Elk Visitor Center, restaurants, shops, hiking & biking trails & outdoor activities. (724) 783-6444 • 3169 Pine Street, Benezette, PA 15821 SleepingHorseLodge.com

**Spring View Lodge** - Charming lodge in the heart of the PA elk range near all the favorite attractions. Book online at Vrbo.com/1137976 or call. (724) 840-3642 • 561 Spring Run Road, Weedville, PA 15868 • BarrTopRentals.com

**St. Marys Sportsmens Lodge** - Situated on secluded 294 acres joining the Sportsmens Farm totaling 650 acres. Sleeps 13 (bring bedding). Great for parties, reunions, hunting, hiking, etc. No ATV's. (814) 512-5215 • 838 Taft Road, St. Marys, PA 15857 StMarysSportsmen.org

**Summit Fireside Lodge & Grill** - Full menu restaurant. Perfect atmosphere for a business lunch, family dinner, small get-together, or just drinks with friends. Open 11am-12am, 7 days/week. (814) 776-2311 • 15129 Boot Jack Road, Ridgway, PA 15853

**The Towers Victorian Inn** - Elegant historic lodging, unmatched hospitality. Romantic getaway. Six beautiful guest rooms with private baths. Carriage house units for families or long/short term rentals. (814) 772-7657 • 330 South Street, Ridgway, PA 15853 TowersInn.com

**Walnut Acres** - 2 fully furnished homes with several acres. Manor: 4 queen beds, screened & covered porches, fire ring. Guesthouse: 1 queen, 1 full, patio with furniture. (814) 787-4212 • 76 Kiwi Street, Weedville, PA 15868 • WinslowHillBB.com

**Wapiti Woods** - Guest Cabins - Ten modern, knotty pine cabins sleep one to six each. Five cabins with whirlpool tubs. Fully equipped, private and just right. Creekside, wooded and clean...nice place. (814) 787-7525 • 5186 River Road, Weedville, PA 15868 WapitiWoods.com

**Weedville Hotel** - Five clean comfortable rooms with a shared bath. Free wifi. Breakfast, lunch and dinner served Monday-Saturday. (814) 787-8079 • 625 River Road, Route 555, Weedville, PA 15868

**Whispering Pines Lodge** - Our cabin is located in a private setting. It is fully furnished. Located five minutes from the visitor center, wine store and local restaurants. (814) 329-5198 3300 Mt. Zion Road, Weedville, PA 15868

**Winslow Hill Bed & Breakfast** - Full service B & B. Private bath, deck, queen size beds. Full breakfast served. Common areas for relaxing, snacks and drinks to enjoy. Nightly/weekly. (814) 787-4212 • 2313 Winslow Hill Road, Benezette, PA 15821 • WinslowHillBB.com



**A DRIVE AWAY. A WORLD APART.**  
Accessible off Interstate 80, the Elk Country Visitor Center is the premier destination for elk viewing in the Northeastern United States.  
134 Homestead Drive  
Benezette, PA 15821  
(814) 787-5167  
ElkCountryVisitorCenter.com



# Elk Viewing Guide



  
**PENNSYLVANIA  
GREAT OUTDOORS**  
**(814) 849-5197**  
**VisitPAGO.com/Elk**







## Welcome to Pennsylvania's Elk Country

This is one of the most scenic and remote regions of Penn's Woods. Elk can be easily spotted in and around Benezette, "The Elk Capital of Pennsylvania." Pennsylvania's wild elk range covers more than 3,000 square miles including parts of nine counties, with the epicenter of elk activity in Elk County. Elk once roamed freely throughout Pennsylvania, but rapid settlements and exploration by early immigrants to the region destroyed the herds. By 1867, wild, free-roaming elk had been eliminated from the state, mainly due to unregulated hunting and habitat loss.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission introduced Rocky Mountain elk back into the state from 1913 to 1926. One hundred and seventy-seven elk were trapped and transferred from Yellowstone National Park and a private reserve in Monroe County, Pennsylvania, and released in central and northeastern Pennsylvania. The elk herd population fluctuated through the years across the state with only the animals released in the north-central mountains successfully surviving. Currently, the herd numbers more than 1,000 of these majestic creatures.

## Elk Viewing in Elk County

To increase your chances of seeing elk, time your viewing adventures for the hour or two after dawn or before dusk, when elk are most active as they move from feeding areas in open fields to sheltered woodlands where they spend most of their day.

## Safety

For everyone's safety, don't stop in the road, pull off onto the shoulder, park in private driveways or on private property, or block traffic when viewing elk. Never attempt to approach, touch, or feed elk or any other wildlife. Please remain a safe distance from all wildlife and remember that elk are quick and unpredictable free-roaming wild animals.

## Courtesy and Respect

Being courteous and showing respect to landowners and other visitors is critically important. If you don't have permission to be on private lands, then you may not be welcome. Good

manners are a prerequisite for visits to the elk range and will help lead to a more positive experience for all. Patience and tolerance will aid you and your family in dealing with traffic and others who are drawn to see the elk herd.

## Public Viewing Areas

Considered to be the heart of Pennsylvania's elk country, the town of Benezette is located along State Route 555 in Elk County. With patience and a little luck, elk can be seen from roadways throughout their range. The following elk-viewing areas are some of the best places for you to experience elk and wildlife watching:

**The Elk Country Visitor Center**, located on Winslow Hill in Benezette, is the result of a public-private partnership between the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Keystone Elk Country Alliance. Since opening in 2010, the center has become the hub of elk-viewing activity. It offers visitors panoramic views, interactive exhibits, horse-drawn wagon rides, a 4D immersive story theater, and educational programs. On the beautiful grounds, you can explore well-maintained trails, elk and wildlife observation areas, and viewing blinds.

**The Winslow Hill Viewing Area** offers a large parking lot atop a spectacular mountain with a walk-up viewing area overlooking a large meadow where elk often gather. It is located near the intersection of Winslow Hill Road and Dewey Road.

**Woodring Farm** features a ¾-mile interpretive hiking trail that encircles more than 80 acres of prime elk-viewing habitat and an overlook with incredible views. The farm is located about ½ mile from the Winslow Hill Viewing Area.

**The Dents Run Viewing Area**, located 3½ miles from Route 555 on Winslow Hill Road, is a very popular elk-viewing area with off-road parking. A handicap-accessible walkway leads to an overlook where interpretive displays teach visitors about the elk herd.

**The Hicks Run Viewing Area**, located 8½ miles east of Benezette on Route 555, features a covered handicapped-accessible viewing blind that provides an exceptional viewing experience to watch elk undetected as they feed in a lush food plot.

**Sinnemahoning State Park** in nearby Cameron County has a small resident elk herd, viewing platforms, an interactive Wildlife Center, and opportunities for wildlife watching, including nesting bald eagles.

**The Elk Scenic Drive** is 127-mile route through the region, best known for scenic vistas and nature/wildlife watching, as elk do not inhabit the entire length of route. Twenty-three viewing sites along the drive have been established to provide both parking and safe wildlife viewing for visitors. The Quehanna Spur also offers visitors access to wildlife-viewing sites, hiking trails, and waterfalls within the remote Quehanna Wild Area.

# LODGING

*If you're planning an overnight trip to Elk County, please consider the following accommodations.*

**316 N. Michael** - A vacation rental renovated to it's original 1907 décor and beauty. Enjoy all modern amenities in this craftsman built home. (814) 594-5053  
316 North Michael Street, St. Marys, PA 15857

**Acomodations at the Cottage** - Private, modern, hillside vacation rental overlooking historic Ridgway. Cable TV, free wireless internet, linens and towels provided, fully equipped kitchen and laundry, outdoor fire ring. (814) 594-2559 • 83 West Cardott Street, Ridgway, PA 15853 [TheCottageRidgway.com](http://TheCottageRidgway.com)

**Antler Shed Cabins** - Year round cabins in Elk Country. One and two bedroom, full amenities, spectacular views, elk viewing. Near Elk Country Visitor Center, bottom of Gray Hill Road. (814) 787-7327 • 27 Elk Country Road (Gray Hill Road), Benezette, PA 15821  
[AntlerShedCabins.com](http://AntlerShedCabins.com)

**Arroyo Cabin** - Beautiful new log cabin with a view of the Clarion River, private back deck, surrounded by National Forest. Perfect for families and pet friendly. (814) 594-4267  
1936 Arroyo Road, Ridgway, PA 15853

**Barr None Lodge** - Beautiful Cape Cod with all the comforts of home in the heart of the Elk range. Visit us at [Vrbo.com/881159](http://Vrbo.com/881159) or [BarrTopRentals.com](http://BarrTopRentals.com). (724) 840-3642 • 4072 Barr Hollow Road, Driftwood, PA 15832 • [BarrTopRentals.com](http://BarrTopRentals.com)

**Benezette Hotel** - Full service restaurant offering great food at a reasonable price, served in a friendly, casual atmosphere. Clean, comfortable rooms available year round. (814) 787-4240 • 95 Winslow Hill Road, Benezette, PA 15821 • [BenezetteHotel.com](http://BenezetteHotel.com)

**Bennett House Bed and Breakfast** - Spacious, quiet 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, wifi, full kitchen privileges - full breakfast menu, snacks & beverages. Regulation horseshoe pits. Elk often wander in yard. (814) 787-4842 • 14039 Route 555, Benezette, PA 15821  
[BennettHousePA.com](http://BennettHousePA.com)

**Bennett's Branch Lodge** - Enjoy all the amenities of home. Sleeps six comfortably with two bedrooms and pull out sofa bed. Relax on the deck and watch the wildlife. (814) 787-8926  
973 River Road, Weedville, PA 15868

**Bennetts Valley Motel** - Small motel. Ground floor rooms. Queen beds, bathroom, shower. Satellite TV, free wifi. Close to visitor center and elk viewing. Occasional elk in back yard. (814) 787-8025 • 18473 Bennetts Valley Hwy, Weedville, PA 15868

**Best Western Plus** - 100% smoke free, 57 rooms, deluxe continental breakfast, outdoor pool, free wifi, 32 inch flat screen TVs with extended cable, refrigerators and microwaves in every room. (814) 834-0000 • 1002 Earth Road, St. Marys, PA 15857  
<http://bit.ly/1KjM8oT>

**Buck Haven Lodge** – Situated at the edge of six private, wooded acres and is within a few miles of elk country's best attractions. (814) 771-4861 • 8767 PA-555, Benezette, PA 15821 • [PaWildsGetaway.com](http://PaWildsGetaway.com)

**Camp Can't Keep Up** - Nestled in the heart of the Pennsylvania elk range, Camp Can't Keep Up offers a scenic retreat for families, couples, hunters, anglers and nature enthusiasts. (412) 216-1191 • 603 Hicks Run Road, Benezette, PA 15821 • [VRBO.com/490885](http://VRBO.com/490885)

**Camp Critter** - Secluded property in the free roaming elk range on two acres of wilderness with beautiful mountain views and fantastic fishing, hunting, and elk viewing. (724) 579-0889 • 561 Hicks Run Road, Benezette, PA 15821 • [Vrbo.com/436324](http://Vrbo.com/436324)

**Camp Waterfront** - Fully equipped accommodations with 5 bedrooms in the heart of the elk range. Relax on the porch with spectacular mountain views of the Bennett Branch of Sinnemahoning Creek. (724) 209-7062 • 127 Walck Lane, Benezette, PA 15821  
[Vrbo.com/700308](http://Vrbo.com/700308)

**Cobblestone Hotel and Suites - St. Marys** - We feature a refrigerator, microwave, coffeemaker and 48" flat tv in every room, complimentary hot breakfast, free wifi, bar and Wolfgang Puck coffee. (814) 245-2020 • 328 Depot Street, St. Marys, PA 15857  
[StayCobblestone.com/PA/St-Marys](http://StayCobblestone.com/PA/St-Marys)

**Cozy Creekside Cottage** - Cozy 2 bedroom cottage by the creek. Great family getaway. Walking distance to Benezette Wines & Benezette Hotel. Sleeps up to 8 comfortably. (814) 354-2932 • 169 Front Street, Benezette, PA 15821

**Cozy Red Camp** - Heart of Elk country. Sleeps 8, central air conditioning, comfortable accommodations. Outdoor lover's dream, plenty of wildlife to see from covered porch. (814) 590-3368 • 22890 Quehanna Hwy, Weedville, PA 15868 • [VRBO.com/478768](http://VRBO.com/478768)

**The Elk Antler Inn** - is a cozy mountain cabin nestled in the heart of Elk Country, only minutes away from local attractions. (814) 771-4861  
8747 Route 555, Benezette, PA 15821 • [PaWildsGetaway.com](http://PaWildsGetaway.com)

**Elk Country Hideaway** - Peaceful, private hideaway on Winslow Hill, the heart of Elk country. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, fully equipped kitchen, fire ring, porch and satellite TV. (724) 388-1007 • 146 Treasure Hill Lane, Benezette, PA 15821 • [ElkCountryHideaway.com](http://ElkCountryHideaway.com)

**Elk Country Retreat** - Nice four bedroom home along the river in elk country. Sleeps 8+. Available all year for sightseeing, hunting, fishing, geocaching and much more. (814) 787-5368 • 616 River Road, Weedville, PA 15868

**Elk County Elk Farm Bed & Breakfast** - Elk County's only working domestic elk farm. Spring newborn calves & bulls in velvet, hear bugling in fall. Stay in our 1800s remodeled barn. Private baths. (814) 772-6810 • 27821 Lake City Road, Ridgway, PA 15853  
[ElkCountyElkFarm.com](http://ElkCountyElkFarm.com)

**The Elk Grove** - Located within walking distance of several local attractions, The Elk Grove is a quiet haven in the heart of Benezette, Pennsylvania. (412) 216-1191  
34 Church Street, Benezette, PA 15821 • [VRBO.com/888810](http://VRBO.com/888810)

**Elk Mountain Homestead** - Lodging on the grounds of Elk Country Visitor Center. Comfortable bedrooms, full bath and kitchen, living room with fireplace, 12-person capacity, nestled on 245-acres. Elk viewing on property. (814) 787-5168 • 401 Homestead Drive, Benezette, PA 15821 • [ExperienceElkCountry.com](http://ExperienceElkCountry.com)

**Elk Terrace Lodge** - Three bedrooms, two full baths, two story luxurious lodge. Fireplace, hot tub, central air, satellite TV. Sleeps eight comfortably. Large kitchen. Cooking utensils available. (814) 772-4854 • 75 Elk Terrace Road, Benezette, PA 15821  
[ElkTerraceLodge.com](http://ElkTerraceLodge.com)

**ElkStone Lodge** - Lovely, newly built 3BR cabin with wifi, indoor/outdoor fireplaces and gorgeous mountain views. Easy access to wineries, restaurants, elk viewing areas and more. (877) 818-1013 • 458 Buck Drive, Benezette, PA 15821  
[BenezetteRentalCabins.com](http://BenezetteRentalCabins.com)

**Flying Dove Ranch, Inc.** - A non-denominational Christian camp and non-profit organization that provides individuals and organizations recreation and a place to strengthen personal relationships with the Lord and each other. (814) 594-1598  
743 Old Red Mill Dam Road, Ridgway, PA 15853

**Forest Edge Cottage** - Two bedroom cottage on 1 acre. Minutes to walking, ATV, snowmobile trails. Fully equipped kitchen, wifi, blu-ray, movies, games, books. Local telephone service. Cozy, comfortable and clean. (724) 894-2522 • 222 Hickey Road, Kane, PA 16735 • [VRBO.com/888927](http://VRBO.com/888927)





Allegheny National Forest



E. Branch Dam  
Clarion River



Ridgway

Johnsonburg

St. Marys

949

120

948

Kersey

255

Byrnedale

555

Weedville

219

Benezette

Dents Run

To Sinnemahoning State Park

**P** Parking

Medical Facility

Canoe Launch

Trailhead

Equestrian Trail



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This guide is an Elk County Hotel Tax Committee project.

