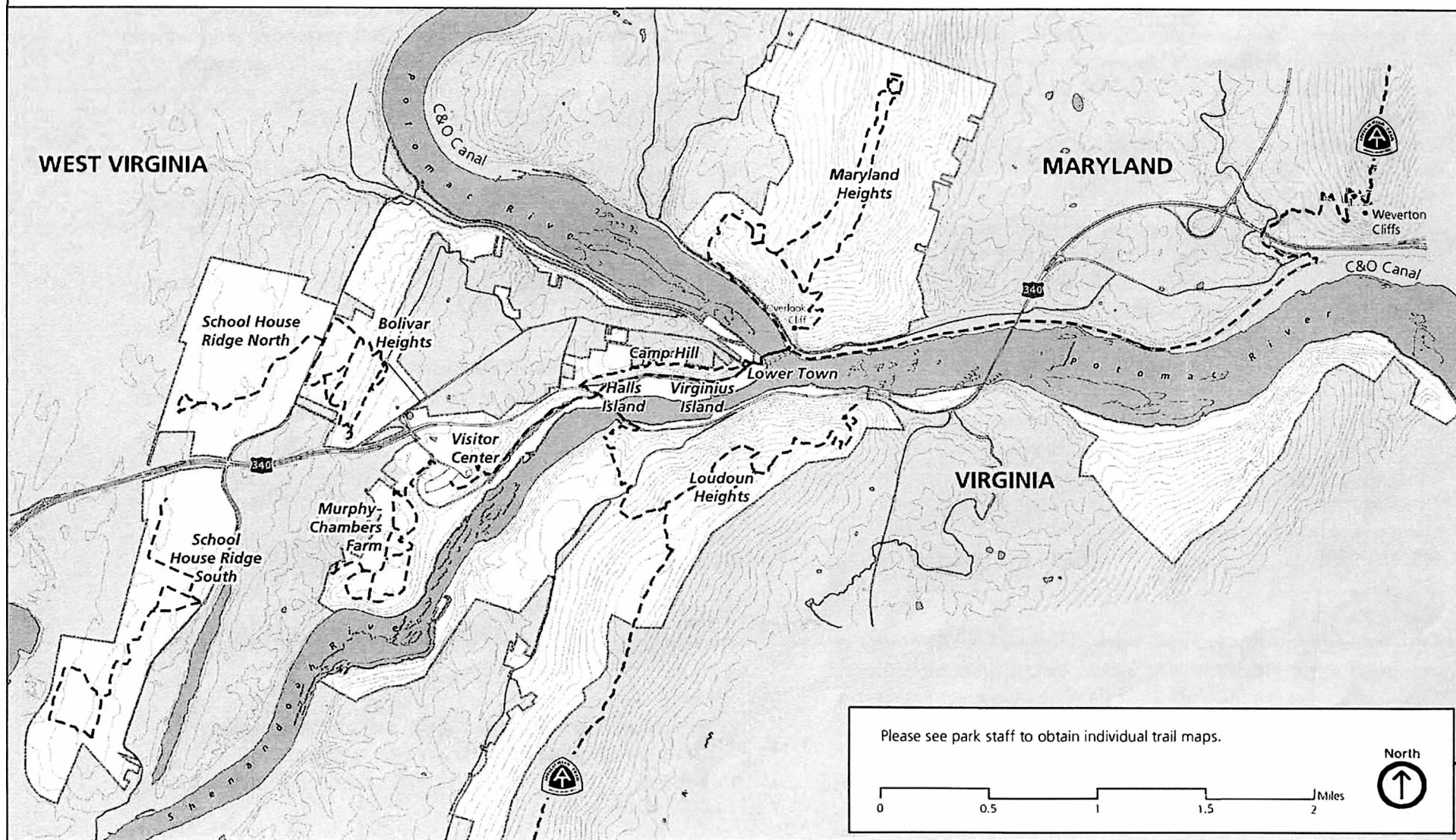


Hiking Trails Overview
Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Department of the Interior
National Park Service



Help preserve these resources. Please stay on the trail and off fragile earthworks. Keep dogs on leash and clean up after them. Bicycles, vehicles and horses can damage trails so are not allowed on any park trail. Thank you for your cooperation.

Visitor Center to Lower Town Trail

Moderate due to one steep section, 1.6 miles one-way, 45 minutes. Intermittent waterfalls, wetlands wildlife, river access, Savery Mill ruins, Shenandoah Canal. Access to Hall and Virginius islands. Watch for traffic.

Virginius Island and Hall Island Trails

Easy, about 2 miles, 1 hour.

Wayside exhibits.

Shenandoah River, riparian forest, spring wildflowers, ruins of mills, turbines and waterworks, site of John Hall's Rifle Works. Connects to the Appalachian Trail, Camp Hill, and Visitor Center to Lower Town trails. Railroad tracks are still in use.

Camp Hill and Appalachian Trail

Moderate, 2-3 miles (with side trails), 1-2 hours.

Wayside exhibits.

Jefferson Rock, Harper Cemetery, former Armory houses and Storer College campus, mountain and river views, Appalachian Trail Conservancy Visitor Center. Return via town streets or connect with Virginius Island.

Murphy-Chambers Farm Trail

Easy to moderate, 1-3 miles roundtrip (with side trails), 30 minutes to 2 hours.

Wayside exhibits.

Farm field and forest, mountain views, Shenandoah River overlook, cannons, former site of the John Brown Fort, Niagara Movement's 1906 pilgrimage, Confederate 1862 flanking maneuver and Union earthworks.

Bolivar Heights Trails

Easy to moderate, 0.3 to 2.4 miles (with side trails), 15 minutes to 1 hour. (continued next column)

Wayside exhibits. Blue Ridge Mountains, field and forest, Potomac River water gap, Shenandoah Valley, 1862 surrender site, cannons, earthworks. Access to School House Ridge North, but watch for traffic.

Schoolhouse Ridge (North) Trail

Moderate, 2.1 miles roundtrip, 1 hour.

Wayside exhibits.

Farm fields, Confederate terrain perspective, view the heights of Bolivar, Maryland and Loudoun, cannons.

Schoolhouse Ridge (South) Trails

Moderate, both trails, 2.5 miles roundtrip, 1½ hours, or, 1.2 miles, 30-40 minutes.

Wayside exhibits.

Farm fields, forest and glade, house ruins, views of Bolivar, Maryland, Loudoun heights and South Mountain, Flowing Springs Run .25 miles on longer trail, cannons.

Loudoun Heights

Difficult (steep and rocky in places), 7.5 miles round trip, 4-5 hours round trip.

Appalachian Trail, multiple views of Harpers Ferry, Potomac and Shenandoah rivers and valleys, phyllite and quartzite rock formations.

Maryland Heights Trail

Difficult (steep and rocky in places), 4.5 or 6.5 miles round trip, 3 to 4 hours.

Wayside exhibits.

Appalachian Trail footbridge, C&O Canal towpath, artillery fortifications, Overlook Cliff, Stone Fort, views of Harpers Ferry, Potomac and Shenandoah rivers and valleys, phyllite and quartzite rock formations.