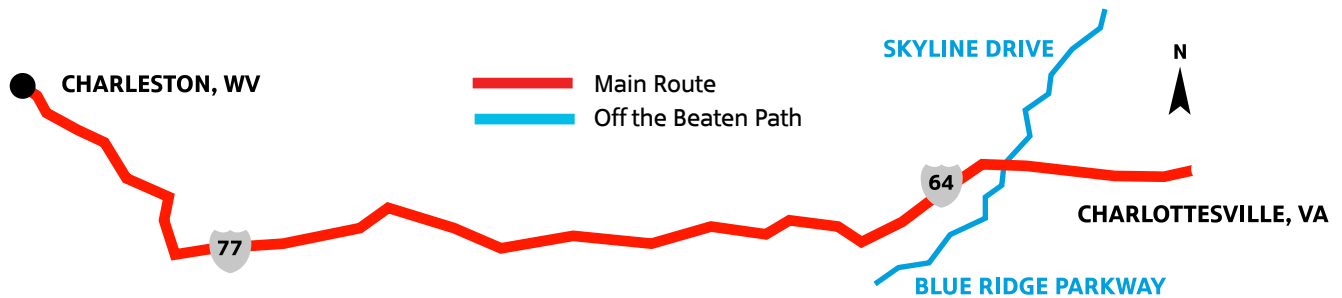


MINI TAKES THE STATES DAY 12 - SEPTEMBER 1 - CHARLESTON, WV to CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA



Total Daily Drive Time: 4.5 hours or 252 miles

Departure Time: 8:00am – 9:00am

Departure Location: Charleston Civic Center – Lee Street parking lot

Estimated Arrival into Charlottesville: 12:30pm – 1:30 pm 5(not including stops)

Main Route Directions: Interstate 64 into Virginia to Interstate 81 North to Interstate 64 East to Charlottesville. Driving through the cities of: Charleston, Beckley, White Sulphur Springs, Covington, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro and Charlottesville.

Main Route Synopsis: Stop by the morning departure desk at the Charleston Civic Center – Lee Street Parking lot between the hours of 7:30am and 9:30am to receive information and details on the day's drive and the upcoming stop.

Where California Highway 1 through Big Sur left off, the Blue Ridge Mountains and Interstate 64 pick up. Almost immediately outside Charleston motorists will experience some of the most spectacular scenery in the Eastern United States. The drive is breathtaking and beyond comparison. If you like mountains and valleys, and some great highway turns, this place is for you. Don't forget to stop in Tamarack, WV or the Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, WV for a true taste of the region. And make sure your camera has batteries. As you drive into Charlottesville, VA, you'll immediately notice the university town's character; understated and regal. Spend some time on the pedestrian mall for some great shopping and awesome food.

Arrival Desk: For your convenience, the arrival desk in Charlottesville will be located at the Omni Charlottesville Hotel (235 West Main Street). The arrival desk will be open from 1pm – 3pm.

Special Events: SIRIUS, MINI's official satellite radio partner, will be providing the daily tip sheet at every 'check point' to all participants informing them of the daily route, traffic alerts and activities – so no one will miss a beat. SIRIUS will also provide the best in 100% commercial-free music at each stop.

WIRED MAGAZINE has officially joined the road rally! MINI USA and **WIRED** have hooked up to provide MINI Takes the States motorists with wireless Internet access throughout the entire journey. The MINI Takes the States **WIRED** branded tour bus will serve as the daily 'check point' for participants, where event updates and information can be obtained in addition to accessing the internet.

Lodging:

Headquarters:

- Omni Charlottesville \$\$ (www.omnihotels.com) - 235 W Main St, Charlottesville – (888)444-6664 or (434)971-5500

Others:

- Hampton Inn Charlottesville \$\$ (www.hamptoninn.com) - 2035 India Rd, Charlottesville – (800)426-7866 or (434)978-7888
- Doubletree Hotel \$ (www.doubletree.com) - 990 Hilton Heights Rd, Charlottesville – (800)222-8733 or (434)973-2121
- Red Carpet Inn \$ (www.redcarpetcville.com) - 405 Premier Cir, Charlottesville – (434)973-8133

Campgrounds:

- www.reserveamerica.com
- www.reserveusa.com

Dining:

- C&O Restaurant (www.candorestaurant.com/) - 515 E Water St, Charlottesville – (434) 971-7044 – 5-10pm (private room 25 or 40)
- Eastern Standard (www.escafe.com) - 102 Old Preston Ave, Charlottesville - (434) 295-8668 – 5:30-10:30pm
- Blue Light Grill & Raw Bar - 120 E Main St, Charlottesville - (434) 295-1223
- Find More at Road Food – (www.roadfood.com/Restaurants)

Points of Interest:

- Blue Ridge Mountains, Skyline Drive and Shenandoah National Park
- Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, WV
- New River Gorge Recreation Area

MINI TAKES THE STATES DAY 12 - SEPTEMBER 1 - CHARLESTON, WV to CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Off the Beaten Path: Interstate 64 into Virginia to Interstate 81 North to Interstate 64 East to Charlottesville but before arriving into Charlottesville, consider driving either North on a portion of Skyline Drive or South onto the Blue Ridge Parkway of VA 610 before circling back to Charlottesville for the evening. (Also note: New River Gorge area just East of Beckley, WV). Have fun, but don't forget how to get back to I-64.

Fun Facts:

- Sissy Spacek and John Grisham both live in Charlottesville.

City Convention and Visitors Bureaus: Charlottesville, VA - www.charlottesville tourism.org