DayTripping August 2024

This month we are going to travel the road on a third covered bridge tour. Our first was in August 2022 to Columbia and Montour Counties, the second was last year in October 2023 to Berks County. This year we are going to go to Bucks County, south of here.

Bucks County has 12 existing covered bridges. We will start at Knecht's Covered Bridge. This bridge is a little over 1 hour away. Travel the turnpike south to Exit 56 for US-22. At the exit take PA-309 South (at this point it is also I-78) In 8.2 miles you will take exit 60 onto Pa-309. In 3.1 miles turn left onto Richlandtown Pike and then in 1 mile turn right onto Peppermint Road. In 3 miles you will turn right onto Knecht Bridge Road and arrive at **Knecht's Mill Covered Bridge** in 150 ft. The bridge was constructed in 1873 and crosses Durham Creek. German settlers farmed this land in the early 1700's

In 1/2 mile turn onto Slifer Valley Road, then in 1.2 miles turn left onto PA -212. Keep left in 1.1 miles onto Old Bethlehem Road, In 4.4 miles turn right onto W Thatcher Road, and in 1/2 mile left onto Covered Bridge Road. You will arrive at **Sheard's Mill Covered Bridge**. This bridge was constructed in 1873 and sits near a mill.

Continue on Covered Bridge Road for 1/2 mile, then turn left onto Richlandtown Road. In 1.2 miles turn left onto Sterner Mill Road and then in 300 ft turn right onto Mountain View Drive. Turn left onto Dublin Pike in 9/10 mile, right in 1.7 miles onto N Fifth Street, left in 9/10 onto W Schwenkmill Road and then right in 3/10 onto Branch Road, Finally in 9/10 turn right onto Blooming Glen Road. **Mood's Covered Bridge** will be in 600 ft. This bridge now sits in the middle of a residential area in Perkasie and is one of the most used covered bridges. This particular bridge is not the original. It had to be rebuilt in June 2004 after some arsonists set it on fire.

Head northwest on Blooming Glen Road for a short distance and then turn left onto N 5th Street. In 1.4 miles turn left onto W Walnut Street and in 3/10 mile on your right you will see **South Perkasie Covered Bridg**e in the park. This bridge was constructed in 1832 and is the 3rd oldest Town Lattice Bridge in the country. It was relocated to the park in 1958 to save it from demolition. Some believe it is the most authentic covered bridge in the state.

Onto the next one, 16 minutes away. Head south on PA-172/E. Walnut Street for 1.9 miles. Turn left onto W. Main Street. Make the first right onto PA-152/Baringer Avenue, this turns into Hilton Pike ,and then in 2.7 miles turn left onto N Limekiln Pike. Turn left in 1.7 miles onto Creek Road, then in 9/10 mile onto Callowhill Road. In 4/10 mile left onto Ferry Toad. Turn right in 1/2 mile on Old Iron Hill Road and you will shortly be at **Pine Valley Covered Bridge.** This bridge was build in 1842 and crosses Pine Creek Run. It is adjacent to the Covered Bridge Park, a favorite among locals. Drive over the bridge with caution, oncoming traffic does not stop in the opposite direction at the entrance of the bridge.

The next bridge will be 34 minutes away but I have a small stop for you on the way! After driving through the bridge, cautiously, stay on Keeley Ave for 1/10 of mile and then turn onto Lamp Post Road, in 4/10 mile turn left onto US -202/ E. Butler Road for 1.5 miles. Use the ramp to take a right onto PA 611 south for 2.9 miles. Turn left onto Almshouse Road. In 6.5 miles is **Tanner Brother's Dairy** where you can stop for their famous chocolate milk and ice cream. When you have enjoyed your break, continue by turning left from the dairy onto Hatboro Road. In 1.6 miles turn right onto Sackettsford Road and immediately left onto 2nd Street Pike, making a slight right turn in 4/10 mile onto Twining Ford Road. In 1.8 miles turn left into Tyler State Park. In 7/10 mile into the park you'll come across the **Scholfield Ford Covered Bridge**. It is the only unpainted bridge and has a rich history. It was destroyed in 1991 by arsonists and was rebuilt by local carpenters. Since, the state didn't pay for the replacement, it took them 4 years to raise money to pay for the steel substructure, then all the

carpenters took a month off, scavenged the wood, and rebuilt it into an exact replica of the one that burned.

Come out of Tyler State Park and make a right onto Twining Ford Road. Turn right onto Cloverly Drive in 9/10 mile. 1/10 mile turn right onto Lehigh Drive, 2/10 mile left onto Beth Drive, 420 feet left onto Holyoke Road. Stay right, in 5/10 turn right onto Worthington Mill Road. In 8.3 miles turn left onto PA-532 north for 8/10 mile and then left onto PA-32. You will arrive at the Washington Crossing Historic Park Visitor Center. Here you can explore the scenic view of the Delaware River and visit the spot where George Washington crossed the river during the Revolutionary War.

Back on the road, the next bridge is about 6 miles away. Head north on Rt 32/River Road for 4.8 miles. Turn left onto Aquetong Road, and then left in 4/10 mile onto Covered Bridge Road. You will arrive at **Van Sandt Covered Bridge** in 1 mile. This bridge sits over Pidcock Creek and was constructed in 1875. It is also rumored to be haunted. Unfortunately or maybe fortunately, there is no place to pull over so it is best to drive through the bridge to avoid any ghosts.

Head north on Covered Bridge Road toward Pidcock Creek Road in 1 mile. Turn left onto Aquetong Road and in 7.6 miles turn left onto Carversville Road. In 300 feet turn onto Carversville Wismer Road and in just 1/10 mile, the road becomes Wismer Road. Follow it for 4.3 miles and after a sharp left turn over Cabin Run Creek you will see **Loux Covered Bridge.** It was built in 1874 and is owned by the state of Pennsylvania. The bridge is named after John A. Loux, who was the longest tenured justice of the peace in Bucks County. This bridge is 1 lane and does not have a place to pull over but it does take you through picturesque winding roads and beautiful scenery.

There is a second covered bridge over Cabin Run Creek a few minutes away. So head northwest on Carversville Road/Wismer Road and continue to follow Carversville Road for 1/2 mile. Turn right onto Dark Hollow Road for 9/10 mile, and then right onto Covered Bridge Road for 6/10 mile. On your left will be the foot-traffic-only **Cabin Run Covered Bridge.** This bridge is named after the abundance of log cabins and sandstone houses that were in the area. The Doan Boys, a gang of Loyalist brothers during the Revolutionary War lived in this area. This bridge was assembled in 1871. Tohickon Vally Park is only 1/2 mile from here and is a nice place to take a break to enjoy the creek.

From the Cabin Run Bridge, head northwest on Covered Bridge Road for 6/10 mile. Continue north on Dark Hollow Road (stay right the road turns into Dark Hollow Road, then East Hollow Road). In 3.1 miles turn left onto Cafferty Road and then in 6/10 right onto Hollow Horn Road. In 148 feet you will see **Frankenfield Covered Bridge.** Build in 1872, it sits on a busy road that spans Tinicum Creek. It is one of the longest-covered bridges at 130 feet and was named after a contractor who lived in a nearby village. Henry Frankenfield's influence can be found in many of the finest buildings in Bucks County.

Continue northeast on Cafferty Road for 2/10 mile, turn right onto Hollow Horn Road, then in 1.3 miles turn right onto Headquarters Road, make a quick left in 420 feet to continue on the road for 9/10 mile. Turn left onto Geiger Hill Road by the post office and you will arrive at **Erwinna Covered Bridge.** Constructed in the mid-1850's, Erwinna is only 56 feet long, has white paint, lattice-type construction and an American flag painted on the front. It is nestled between 2 homes and sits on the property of Colonel Arthur Erwin. The colonel served in the Bucks County militia and aided Washington by rallying his soldiers to assist in the 1776 Delaware River crossing.

The last bridge we will visit is 5 minutes away. Head south, back towards the post office on Geiger Hill Road. It turns into Headquarters Road and in 5/10 mile turn left onto Rt 32 North/River Road for 1.7 miles. Turn left onto Uhlerstown Hill Road and you will see **Uhlerstown Covered Bridge.** This bridge lies hidden amongst tall trees, horse farms, and houses. The oak bridge was built in 1855. It crosses the Delaware Canal and was named for a local canal boat builder and first postmaster, Michael Uhler. Note: Uhlerstown Hill Road, a one-way street west of the bridge is closed from December to April.

From here you turn left onto River Road, then turn right in 7.9 miles onto Easton road. Left onto Browns Dr in 7.2 miles and right in 4/10 onto Old Well Road, 8/10 right onto Morgan Hill Road and then left in 1.6 miles onto I-78 West. In 3.7 miles take exit 71 for PA-33 North. In 25 miles keep left for PA-33 north and in 3.1 miles left for I-80 west. I think you can find your way home from this point.

I hope that you have a fun day traveling Bucks County and their covered bridges.The fall is my favorite time to see Covered Bridges and Pennsylvania does have a lot of them to explore.

Information for this day tripping article was from *Your self-guided tour of Bucks County's covered bridges* - https://whyy.org/articles/pennsylvania-bucks-county-covered-bridges-self-guided-driving-tour/ and *Covered Bridge Driving Tour* -https://www.visitbuckscounty.com/things-to-do/covered-bridges/covered-bridge-tour/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=paid_search&utm_campaign=&gad_source=1