



# RIPLEY, WEST VIRGINIA



Located in the Appalachian foothills of the Ohio River, is a city called Ripley. It is a small city full of spirit and warmth that, as stated on their website, is proud of its past and excited about its future. Situated at a midway point between Charleston and Parkersburg, Ripley offers classic, small town charm, but has access to the amenities that the larger, nearby cities offer.



## Fast Facts:

- Ripley was originally owned and settled by William, John, and Lewis Rodgers through a 400 acre land grant in 1768. It was sold in 1803 to Jacob Starcher.
- In 1824, Jacob Starcher erected a grist mill. By 1830, he laid out the town and named it after a young minister, Harry Ripley, who had drowned in Big Mill Creek shortly before his upcoming wedding. Ripley was finally chartered in 1832.
- During the 1840's, immigrants from England, France, Switzerland, and Germany moved into Ripley. They brought with them their skills in woodworking, home design, construction, and wood milling adding to the growth of the area.
- Ripley is the county seat of Jackson County.
- The Appalachian Distillery and Jackson County Farmer's Market are located in Ripley.
- The Cedar Lakes Conference Center is located in Ripley. It boasts 450 acres of unlimited recreational activities. The conference center is also home to the Mountain State Arts and Crafts Fair held annually since 1963.
- Ripley is home to America's largest small town Fourth of July celebration.
- On July 4, 2002, President George W. Bush visited and gave a public speech from the courthouse steps.

