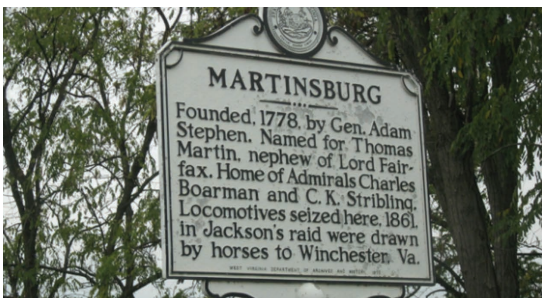




# MARTINSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA



Located in Berkeley County in the Eastern Panhandle and one of the fastest growing cities in West Virginia, Martinsburg is known as the Gateway to the Shenandoah Valley. It is the largest city in the Eastern Panhandle and the fastest growing city in West Virginia. Perhaps its close proximity of less than 100 miles to Washington D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland can help account for this distinction.

## Fast Facts:

- Martinsburg was founded during the American Revolution by the Scottish born General Adam Stephen. He named the town for a friend of his and the nephew of Lord Fairfax, Thomas Bryan Martin.
- Stephen built his house over an opening to an extensive natural cave system that sits below downtown Martinsburg. It was seen as an escape route if the British or Native American Indians attacked. The house is still standing and can be toured by visitors.
- The first post office, in what is now West Virginia, was opened in Martinsburg in 1792.
- Noted Confederate Spy, Belle Boyd, operated out of Martinsburg. Often sending information to Confederate Generals Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson and J.E.B. Stuart.
- In the late 1800’s, Martinsburg became the center of the railroad industry and its workers.
- The Martinsburg Roundhouse complex is a rare example of 19th-century railroading technology and has been a part of two major events in the history of the United States: the Civil War and the Great Railroad Strike of 1877.
- The Great Railroad Strike of 1877 began in Martinsburg at the B&O shops and spread nationwide.
- In 1891, Interwoven Mills began operations in Martinsburg and grew to be the largest manufacturer of men’s hosiery in the world.
- Martinsburg had its own automotive company from 1912 to 1922, called Norwalk. This company assembled the longest-made known cars to be built in the state of West Virginia.
- One of two Enterprise Computing Centers of the IRS is located in Martinsburg. It processes most of the countries electronically filed tax documents from businesses.
- Martinsburg is home to Blue Ridge Community and Technical College and a branch of The University of Charleston.
- Berkeley County, where Martinsburg is located, is the #1 county in the world for geocaching, the recreational activity of hunting for and finding a hidden object by means of GPS coordinates posted on a website.
- Procter and Gamble built a five hundred million facility in 2015 just outside the city.

