

Truly at "the top of West Virginia," the city of Chester is sandwiched between the states of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Settled by potters, Chester offers quiet suburban life—a haven for commuters with easy access to two major metropolitan areas. Chester is small in size, big in history and strong on community pride!



Top: Chester's famous teapot
Bottom: Antique press at National Church Supply

history

Established in 1896 and incorporated in 1907, the city was named "Chester" simply because it was an easy name to remember. Prior to that it was called "South Side."

Chester was once home to Harkers Pottery, the oldest pottery in the nation as well as the famous Taylor Smith & Taylor China Company, plus numerous smaller potters. American Sheet and Tin Plate began in Chester and became a part of United States Steel Corporation, later moving to Gary, Indiana.

One of the most famous Chester properties was Rock Springs Park which was built in the late 1800's and showcased a small wooden roller coaster and a large dance hall hosting popular singers, band leaders and actors of that era. A historic marker in the midst of a major highway interchange reminds us of Chester's progress.

Today, Chester is immersed in a downtown revitalization project including new sidewalks and refinished storefronts. Boasting a population of 2,600, Chester's residents enjoy boating, fishing and water sports on the Ohio River.

area attractions

Local attractions include Chester City Park which houses a ballfield, tennis courts, basketball court, pavilion, picnic areas and boat launch/dock. You'll also find the Jack Owen, Third Street and Lawrenceville Playgrounds.

annual events

Annual events and festivals include a Fourth of July celebration and the Hometown Christmas celebration.

landmarks

In 1938, The Chester Teapot was constructed by William "Babe" Devon. The Teapot started as a gigantic wooden hogshead barrel for Hire's Root Beer advertising campaign, and later was covered in tin.

It was used to sell refreshments, pottery and gift items. After several ownership changes, C & P Telephone donated the Teapot to the city in 1987. The Teapot was painted its original red and white colors late in the summer and the grounds were landscaped.

Since 1990, "The World's Largest Teapot" rests on what was Rock Springs Park and adjacent to the Jennings Randolph Bridge into Ohio. The Lincoln Highway, Route 30, comes through this three mile stretch of West Virginia.

education

Pre-School

Judy Pryor Pre-School: 304-387-1548

Little Einsteins: 304-387-2233

Primary

Allison Elementary: 304-387-1915

Library

Lynn Murray Memorial Library: 304-387-1010

transportation

Chester is just 49 miles from Pittsburgh and 34 miles from Youngstown. Both areas have much to offer for shopping and recreation. Distance travel is made easier with the Pittsburgh International Airport just 26 miles away.

civic groups

Chester is home to several local civic groups including the Chester Arts Club, Lions and Kiwanis Clubs.

churches

Sacred Heart

Chester First United Methodist

Westminster United Presbyterian

First United Presbyterian

St. Matthews Episcopal

First Christian

Church of Christ

Chester Church of the Nazarene

industrial

Metsch Refractory

Congo River Terminal

Chester Tool and Die

important numbers

Emergency:	911
Police:	304-387-2820
Volunteer Fire Department:	304-387-1960
City Water Department:	304-387-0114
Post Office:	304-387-2560



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