

## **Berks County Covered Bridge Tour**

This tour covers the five covered bridges of Berks County. Bridge finders based in Reading might find it more convenient if done in reverse. Hex signs are a common image of Pennsylvania Dutch country, and several of the Berks County bridges have hex signs at the portal -- a distinction to look for in the Berks County bridges.

This tour starts from Yellow House, which is on Route 662 between Route US 422 in Douglasville and Rt. 73 in Oley. From Yellow House take 662 toward Oley and right on Covered Bridge Road. Turn right on Spangsville Road, or, if you miss it, on Church Road, to Griesmer's Mill Bridge.

**Griesmer's Mill Bridge** is 124 ft. long. It was built in 1832 to cross Manatawny Creek.

Return to Covered Bridge Road and continue to Pleasantville Bridge.

**Pleasantville Bridge** is 128 ft. long. It was built in 1852 to cross Little Matatawny Creek.

Going south, turn right on Kaufman then quickly again right on Snyder Road. Turn right again on Mill and left on Hoch Road. Continue northward as the road changes its name to Forge Dale Road and merges with Lyon's Road, which takes you into Kutztown. Jog to the right at Main Street, resuming northward on Greenwich Street, which becomes Krumsville Road. A left on Kutz Road followed by another left on Kutzmill Road takes you to Kutz's Bridge.

**Kutz's Bridge** is: 93 ft. long. It was built in 1854 to cross Sacony Creek.

Return to Krumsville Road and continue north, taking the left fork on Kuhler Hill Road to a left on Old Pa. Route 22. In Lenhartsville, turn left on Route 143. Dreibelbis Station Bridge will be on your left.

**Dreibelbis Station Bridge** is 172 ft. long. It was built in 1869 to cross Maiden Creek.

Continue south on Route 143 as it becomes Route 662; turning left on Route US 222. Continue on Route US 222 to a left on Route 183 followed by a right on Red Bridge Road to Wertz's, or Red Bridge in a local park.

**Wertz's Bridge** is 204 ft. long. It was built in 1867 to cross Tulpehocken Creek.

From Wertz's Bridge on can return to Route 183 and Route US 222 to go most anywhere. Route US 222 south goes to Route 422 and continues on to Lancaster. Route US 222 north goes to Allentown.