

Bike, Hike or Drive to Cobblestone Hotel & Suites, Connellsville, PA

While many were celebrating St. Patrick's Day 2019 at Bud Murphy's in Connellsville, PA, I checked into the Cobblestone Hotel and Suites along the Youghiogheny River and Allegheny Passage rail trail, just one mile away. Sandy, who has been with the hotel since its opening, greeted me with a smile. A few rooms were reserved, but I wondered why it wasn't full. I felt that this little gem should be filled to the brim year round, especially on days like St. Patrick's when people out celebrating may need a clean, comfortable, peaceful haven to lay their heads after the revelry.

This was my second visit to the hotel. My sister and I stayed a night last fall. We used the pool, enjoyed the riverside patio, and the early morning complimentary breakfast. As an author/publisher, I have experienced and written about many area business establishments through the years. So, when I decided to begin reviewing area lodging, I thought I would let you all know that just a short 17 mile ride from Ohio Pyle, at the Yough River Park, a lovely hotel awaits. It is not located in a concrete jungle. The wide flowing river is outside the window, the door, just below the patio, near Crawford's Cabin

I was raised on Johnson Lane, Bullskin Township and have lived in or near Ohio Pyle for many years. I love trains. Their sound in the night is soothing to my soul. Just across the river from the Cobblestone Hotel, slow moving trains ease through the community every so often. Their sounds are much more quiet and soft than I am used to due to the slower speed. In Ohio Pyle, they roll through at high speed, blowing the whistle shrilly. Still, I love that, too.

The first time we stayed at the Cobblestone, there was a group of men who had biked from Canada if I remember correctly. This time I met a lady from North Carolina, and told her a bit about the area.

The cozy hotel by the Yough rises three stories on Connellsville's west side, at 325 N. 1st Street, just past Faris' Beer Distributor. They have many extra perks that make a hotel stay easy. Free WIFI, an exercise room and pool, laundry, complimentary coffee, tea and water in the lobby, wake up calls, safe deposit boxes, vending machines, ice, refrigerators in the rooms, a conference room, a rewards program, and they allow pets for a small fee.

Their 4:30 - 11:30 P. M. evening lounge includes Wednesday's Music Talks with Chelsea Ritenour at 6:30 pm. These shows are taped live for Armstrong Local Programming.

Upcoming Wednesday "Music Talks" include:

April 3 – All the Lonely People

April 10 – Blackened Ground

April 17 – Detweiler Sisters

April 24 – Nox Imperium

The Cobblestone is two short blocks to West Crawford Avenue's Kickstand Cafe, Ruvo's Italian Restaurant, Keedy's Pizzeria, FRESH by Sparks Catering – Healthy Grab n Go and WIFI, and Tangles Hair Salon. Just across the river bridge, you will find the Amtrak Station, Connellsville Canteen Cafe & Museum, Appalachian Creativity Center, the Post Office, Banks, and the Carnegie Free Library & Museum. You can also take a short walking tour of historic sights and public art.

Staying in? Several area restaurants and pizzerias offer local delivery.

Upcoming Connellsville Events

May 11 – County Train Day

May 25 – Geranium Festival (Downtown, 9am - 4pm)

June 9 – August 25 – Concert Series, Lion's Square (Sunday, 7-9pm)

June 29 – 30 – Braddock's Crossing (Yough River Park)
September 7 – Pizza Festival (Downtown, 10am - 5pm)
November 2 – Chilli Fest (11am – 2pm, \$10. per person)
December 7 – It's a Connellsville Christmas

The Cobblestone is a stones throw from Martins Grocery Store, Route 119, local events, farmers markets (seasonal), summer concerts and downtown festivals. It is a fun stop on your trail ride or a peaceful place to stay during events.

Come by bike, hike or drive, but do make Cobblestone Hotel & Suites in Connellsville part of your journey. The staff is pleasant and helpful, the beds comfy. The hotel is almost new and after this, I hope, no longer a secret.

Cobblestone Hotel & Suite Reservations: 724 603-3580
325 N. 1st Street, Connellsville, PA 15425
www.staycobblestone.com