

Renaissance. Revitalization. Rebirth.

Butler County

PENNSYLVANIA

We Bake Smiles!!

Harmony

The revitalization bug has hit Butler County and many of our small towns are taking advantage—beautifying the streetscapes, encouraging new businesses and partnerships, creating signature events, and making these towns a true destination for visitors. Going one step further, these towns are doing it while keeping their unique heritage and historic architecture intact!

Stroll Through History

The charming towns of Butler County like Saxonburg, Zelienople and Harmony are captivating! Strollable sidewalks along Main Streets make these towns even more appealing as you learn about the area's unique history while visiting museums, trendy boutiques and restaurants.

Saxonburg is an unforgettable town that has 18th-century old-world charm. Its Main Street was designed featuring distinctive architecture modeled after a quaint German hamlet, and the town still retains much of its original character. Main Street is lined with local dining options, cafes and idyllic shops. A stop in the park pays homage to John Roebling; founder of the town and creator of wire-rope and designer of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Affectionately described as "similar to Mayberry", the quaint town of Zelienople is lined with locally-owned businesses all while preserving the charm and delightful beauty of its Main Street. This town attracts visitors with its trendy boutiques, gorgeous historic homes, unique dining options and art scene. Founded in 1802 by Detmar Basse, the town was named after his daughter, 'Zelie,' combined with the Greek word for town, 'nople.' Visitors can learn more about the history and

heritage of the town with public tours at the Zelienople Historical Society's Passavant House and Buhl House, the oldest existing building in Zelienople. Another landmark in 'Zelie' is the Strand Theater, a restored movie and vaudeville theater dating back to 1914.

Take a step back in time with a visit to Historic Harmony, the site of western Pennsylvania's first National Historic Landmark District. Harmony was founded in 1804 by the Harmony Society of German Lutheran Separatists who were seeking religious freedom. After two hundred years, the society lives on through the historic architecture, landmarks, museums, cemeteries and events that celebrate the town's heritage. Like most, this quaint village will captivate you with its old brick and log buildings, unique shops, cozy cafes and popular eateries.

Culinary Finds

Butler County's quaint towns might be small, but they are big on flavor! From award-winning restaurants and craft breweries to local bakeries and coffee shops, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Saxonburg - There are many ways to enjoy the food scene in Saxonburg. Get tickets to the 'Burgh Bits and Bites Food Tour, a walking and tasting tour through the town or make your

Towns to Keep Your Eye On

Butler County's small towns have been inspired by the movement to revitalize, beautify and add visitor appeal to their towns.

- **Butler**, a town previously named 7th Best Small Town in America by Smithsonian Magazine, is really living up to the title. Its downtown features new businesses and developments on Main Street including two locally-owned breweries, trendy shops, unique restaurants, cozy B&B's, coffee shops, and a parking garage. Its significant building structures have seen new life, and the city has emerged as an 'artsy' town, bursting with murals, vibrant color and creativity that adds a fresh perspective to downtown.
- Another big-name small town is **Mars**. In June 2015, they began a Mars New Year event, complete with NASA involvement. The community plans to continue the celebration every two years to coincide with the planet's actual New Year.
- **Slippery Rock** began beautifying the town in the early 2000's with improvements including two new parks, cleaner streetscapes and adding a waterfall to the entrance of the town.



Saxtonburg

dining route. Popular spots along Main Street include Hotel Saxtonburg, Batch, MainStreet Bakeshop, Thoma Meat Market and Heritage Wine Cellars.

Zelienople - Locals flock to eateries like Kaufman Tavern and Della Terra. These restaurants feature ingredient-driven cuisines combined with a trendy atmosphere, making for an unforgettable dining experience. The night doesn't have to end after dinner. Make your way to one of the town's breweries or get dessert at the IceBox Creamery.

Harmony - As you stroll through Historic Harmony, you'll discover incredible "foodie finds" like the Wunderbar Coffee & Crepes, The Two Fraus Bakery and The Harmony Inn. These fan favorites offer sweet or savory crepes, unique baked goods and German-infused entrees and handcrafted drinks.

Today's Revitalization

Butler County's small towns have been inspired by the movement to revitalize, beautify and add visitor appeal to their towns. Several areas have also become culinary destinations, dynamic shopping spots and an up-and-coming craft beer scene.

Many of these towns have taken it upon themselves to create and sustain special annual events to bring even more visitors to their towns. Events range from focusing on arts, history and holidays to annual festivals and monthly socials. To the right are some of the most popular:



Zelienople

Always Something to Do

Zelienople

- **Zelienople Open Air Market** - Vendors and local businesses line the street every Thursday night from May through October
- **Horse Trading Days** - Annual event to promote the Zelienople-Harmony area
- **Country Fall Festival** - Live music, fall festivities, sidewalk sales, petting zoo and more
- **Miracle on Main Street** - Annual holiday festival on Main Street

Saxtonburg

- **Main Street Mingle** - Main Street is closed to vehicle traffic for monthly socials featuring live music, vendors, and extended shop and restaurant hours
- **Annual Festival of the Arts** - crafts, food, music and art demonstrations in Roebling Park
- **'Burgh Bits and Bites Food Tours** - a food tasting adventure combined with a historic walking tour throughout Main Street

Harmony

- **Live Music** - You'll always be able to find live music in Harmony (no pun intended!) Bottlebrush Gallery & Center for the Arts, Wunderbar Coffee and Crepes, The Harmony Inn, and the Center of Harmony regularly book artists, and all of these venues are located within walking distance from each other.
- **Artisan Saturdays** - Every Saturday in June, Historic Harmony features a variety of artisans who sell and sometimes demonstrate their crafts to the public
- **German Christmas Market (WeihnachtsMarkt)** - regional artisans and vendors fashioned after Germany's famed markets
- **Silvester New Year's Eve Celebration** - family-oriented celebration of the New Year on German time



TOURISM & CONVENTION BUREAU

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