



The Alleghenies
Tourism Council
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**News
Release**

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ALLEGHENIES' TOWN NAMED AS A FINALIST IN BUDGET TRAVEL CONTEST

ALTOONA, PA – Huntingdon, located in The Alleghenies, was named one of ten finalists in *Budget Travel's* contest to find "America's Coolest Small Town." Nestled in Huntingdon County, Huntingdon is a gateway to beautiful mountain scenery, a thriving arts scene, as well as a wealth of outdoor recreation opportunities.

“*Budget Travel* received 152 nominations and we are thrilled that Huntingdon was chosen as a top ten finalist,” said Ed Stoddard, Membership Services Director for the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau. “There are so many great things to do and see in and around Huntingdon like hiking the 1000 Steps, fishing Raystown Lake or enjoying the outdoor recreation opportunities *The Alleghenies* holds.”

“Located along the Juniata River, the town is the center of culture and business in Huntingdon County. Visit Juniata College's Baker Peace Chapel, a granite circle that sits atop a secluded hill, which was designed by artist and architect Maya Lin. In the evening, dine at Boxer's Café, a local favorite for a large selection of microbrews and live music. The home-cooked meals appeal to many and include vegetarian options. Drop by Mimi's, a cosmopolitan restaurant and bar known for its desserts and martinis—and dessert martinis.” As submitted by Rebecca Berdar, Huntingdon *Daily News* staff writer.

Cast a Ballot

[Voting](http://www.budgettravel.com/bt-srv/coolestsmalltowns/) is open weekdays from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. EST on the *Budget Travel* website at www.budgettravel.com/bt-srv/coolestsmalltowns/. The polls will close on April 3, 2009 and winners will be announced on April 13, 2009.

Voters are also encouraged to submit photos and videos to provide support for their vote. In addition to the votes, submitted photos, videos, and comments will be used to determine the “coolest small town.”

How does Budget Travel define the coolest small town?

According to the *Budget Travel* website, “The town must have a population under 10,000 – we’re talking small towns, not big cities. It’s also got to be on the upswing, a place that’s beginning to draw attention – and new residents – because of the quality of life, arts and restaurants scene, or

proximity to nature. And cool doesn't mean quaint. We want towns with an edge, so think avantgarde galleries, not country stores.”

About The Alleghenies

The Alleghenies Tourism Council is a partnership of organizations interested in further developing the tourism industry and economic development opportunities in an eight county region in Southcentral Pennsylvania. The Council works under the umbrella of the Southern Alleghenies Planning & Development Commission, a non-profit economic development agency. For more information on The Alleghenies, call 1-800-458-3433 or visit www.TheAlleghenies.com.

About Budget Travel Magazine

Featuring must-know tips, hidden gems across the world, humorous stories, smart deals, and timely news, *Budget Travel* has become an indispensable guide for 2.1 million educated and sophisticated consumers. Surpassing the usual lineup of fantasy coffee table magazines, *Budget Travel* redefines the travel category by integrating breathtaking imagery with valuable, practical knowledge, and inspiring yet affordable strategies for real vacationers. For more information, please visit BudgetTravel.com

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***Editors Note, if you would like to interview a representative from The Alleghenies or the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau please contact Sean Waddle at (814) 949-6552.*