

**CSXT FROM
WINCHESTER, KENTUCKY, TO THE TENNESSEE STATE LINE**

!!WARNING!! DO NOT GET OFF THE ROADS AND GO EXPLORING IN THE WOODS AS YOU RAILFAN AS THERE ARE PRIVATE GARDENS IN THE AREA THAT THE LOCALS PROTECT. MANY CARRY!! ALWAYS BE PROACTIVE WITH LOCALS. EXPLAIN THAT YOU ARE JUST TAKING PHOTOS OF TRAINS AND RAILROAD PROPERTY FOR YOUR OWN PERSONAL ENJOYMENT. !!WARNING!!!

At Winchester leave **I-64** at Exit 94, and take **KY 1958 South**. Get in far left lane to turn left onto **US 60**.

Turn left onto **US 60** and follow into downtown Winchester.

Turn right on **MAIN STREET** and go to flashing lights, **FRENCH AVENUE**.

Turn left on **FRENCH AVENUE**. At **STOP SIGN** turn right and follow road to CSX Patio Yard. After crossing the track via the overpass, turn left on the first paved road on left, **OLD MUD CREEK ROAD**. Then turn left again. Park in the cemetery just before the yard.

Return to **MAIN STREET** and turn left. Then turn left onto **KY 1923** and follow **KY 1923** to **KY 627**. **KY 1923** will follow the railroad toward the Kentucky River.

Turn left on **KY 627** to **KY 1924 South** at bottom of hill. Turn left onto **KY 1924** and follow this road to the power plant. Park on side of road between power plant and railroad track. Off to right are two railroad bridges and tunnels. (Tunnel #8) One bridge and tunnel are inactive. Walk down the abandoned right-of-way to the river to view bridges and tunnels.

Return to **KY 627**, **cross Kentucky River** and turn left onto **KY 388** (Fort Boone State Park). At railroad track turn left and use un-named gravel road to reach Tunnel #9. Locals drive through this tunnel, but I would NOT do it.

Return to **KY 388** and turn left to follow the railroad to Richmond. In downtown Richmond at Courthouse turn left on **MAIN STREET**. Follow **MAIN STREET** through town. Park on other side of railroad track to view CSXT Yard, old L&N Depot, and CSXT Yard Office. Continue south on **MAIN STREET**. It will become **BIG HILL ROAD** and then **US 25**.

On **US 25** south of Richmond look to the left for a cluster of historical markers. Just beyond these you will pass over the CSXT lead into the Bluegrass Ordnance Depot. There is a DoD railyard visible beyond the fence.

Follow **US 25** into Berea and turn right on **KY 595**. Just before **I-75** turn right on **MAYDE ROAD**. A small industrial railyard is located a mile back on the right. After viewing return to **US 25** and turn right.

Follow **US 25** to **BROADWAY**, located just before the railroad track. There is a sign here directing you to Old Town. Turn right onto **BROADWAY** and visit the former L&N Depot, now a Visitors Center.

Return to **US 25**, turn right and cross track, and then immediately turn right onto **LESTER STREET**. Park at the former L&N freight house. Tunnel Number #10 will be off to the right.

Return to **US 25** and turn right. Follow **US 25** out of town. Once out of town the first road on the left is **SALT LICK ROAD**. Turn left onto **SALT LICK ROAD** and drive to the railroad underpass. You can see the original height of the rail line by viewing the stone blocks.

After viewing return to **US 25** and turn left. As you run south you will climb a small hill. There should be a sign saying "Entering Rockcastle County" as you go up the hill. At the top of the hill there is a pull off on the left. Park here; this is Boone Gap. Water to the south runs to the Cumberland River, while water to the north runs to the Kentucky River. Below you is Tunnel #11. Best viewing time is in winter.

Continue south on **US 25** following track to **KY 1786**. At **KY 1786** turn left and drive to Wildie. As you leave Wildie the first road on the right is **MERRITT CEMETERY ROAD**. This road dead ends but has an excellent view for afternoon photo taking of CSXT trains. The second road on the right is **HUMMEL ROAD** (i.e. **DOC WOLF ROAD**). Turn right here. **WARNING this will become a very narrow one lane dirt forest road without any signage. Follow the well-traveled road. Do not take a RV or a car with low clearance on this road.** Railroad will be seen off and on to the right.

Upon reaching the railroad track, park and look north over the railroad bridge toward Tunnel #13. It lies to the left of the new mainline. It can be seen in winter.

Continue on **HUMMEL ROAD**. Turn left at the "T" continue to Renfro Valley and **US 25**.

At **US 25** turn left and then take **I-75** south to the next exit (Exit 59) and exit south. Turn left on **US 25**, go under **I-75**, and then make an immediate left onto **KY 1004 (ORLANDO ROAD)** for Orlando.

At Orlando cross railroad tracks and make an immediate turn left onto **BUSH CREEK CIRCLE ROAD**. At second encounter with railroad track do not cross but continue straight along railroad track on gravel road. In front of you is Tunnel #15.

Return to **KY 1004** and turn left. Cross stream and turn left on **KY 1912**. Turn left on first road on left, **COVE BRANCH ROAD**. Go under railroad track and turn right onto **TWIN TUNNEL ROAD**. **WARNING this will become a very narrow one lane dirt forest road without any signage. Follow the well-traveled road. Do not take a RV or a car with low clearance on this road.** Stop just before the railroad track. Tunnel #15 will be on right and tunnel #14 on left. L&N in 1930 daylighted east Tunnel #15 but CSXT uses non daylighted Tunnel #15. Continue on **TWIN TUNNEL ROAD** to north end of TUNNEL #14. After viewing continue onward to bridge where there is an area to turn around. Return to **KY 1912** and turn right

Continue back to Orlando. At bridge do not re-cross but continue on **KY 1004** toward Great Salt Peter Cave. You will pass **KY 1794** on your left. Next road on the right, just before a bridge, is **MULLINS STATION ROAD**. Turn right and take this road. (If you reach Great Salt Peter Cave you have gone

too far.) Turn around and take first road on left after crossing bridge.) **WARNING this will become a very narrow one lane dirt forest road without any signage. Follow the well-traveled road. Do not even think about taking a RV or a car with low clearance on this road.**

Follow **MULLINS STATION ROAD** to railroad track located in a large desolated area. You have reached Mullins Station and Tunnel #18. Old Tunnel #18 is to the west of present Tunnel #18. You can stop and take photos. Then continue on **MULLINS STATION ROAD** until you reach railroad track. Cross track and park. CSXT's Sinks Branch rail line enters the mainline from the right, 200 yards to the south, via the Lebanon Line Tunnel #4.

Continue on **MULLINS STATION ROAD** to **US 25**. You will be following the track of the old L&N Lebanon Branch to Mt. Vernon.

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SIDE TRIP

At **US 25** turn right for Mt. Vernon. In downtown Mt. Vernon follow **US 150** west to edge of town. On right hand side of the road is a large stone quarry operation that sees one or two unit trains a week. Return to **US 25** and head south to Livingston.

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At **US 25** turn left and run south to **TEN FOOT HOLE ROAD, (i.e. FESTER ROAD)**, located a mile or so north of Livingston. **WARNING this will become a very narrow one lane dirt forest road without any signage. Follow the well-traveled road. You will have to ford a creek so do not travel if raining or shortly after a rain. If raining continue on US 25 to Livingston. Do not even think about taking a RV or a car with low clearance on this road.** Turn left on **TEN FOOT HOLE ROAD** and stop at railroad track. This was Tunnel #5 on Lebanon Branch. Continue on **TEN FOOT HOLE ROAD** until it becomes **LOWER PINEY BRANCH ROAD**. Take **Lower Piney Branch** to **KY 1955**. Turn right and follow **KY 490** to Livingston.

Turn right on **KY 490** into Livingston. Turn left on **US 25**. A small CSXT yard is located here that often has MoW equipment in it. There is a pull off at the end of town which allows a view of the CSX Bridge over the river.

WARNING – Do not believe your GPS if it shows that you can ford the river just south of Livingston to WILDCAT MOUNTAIN ROAD and use that road to follow the railroad to Hazel Patch. The ford is no more.

Continue south on **US 25** to **HAZEL PATCH ROAD**, sign posted for Camp Wild Cat Civil War Battlefield. Turn left and follow road to railroad track. Nice area to shoot trains at. Return to **US 25** and turn left.

Continue south on **US 25** to East Bernstadt. Turn left on **KY 490** to CSXT Railroad Yard. You can park next to the yard alongside the road. A small coal load out is located here plus there are generally a number of wood chip cars parked in the yard.

Return to **US 25** and turn left for London. Drive into downtown London. Turn left on **FOURTH STREET** and follow it to CSXT Yard. Cross track and turn left on **TOBACCO ROAD** to view yard.

Return to **US 25** and turn left for Corbin. **US 25** will split outside of Corbin into **US 25E** and **US 25W**. Take **US 25W** for Corbin.

As you enter Corbin on **US 25W** you want to turn left onto **KY 312**, but then make an immediate turn right on **LAUREL AVENUE**. Follow **LAUREL AVENUE** back to the C-C junction with CSXT's Cumberland Valley Branch. Do not go on CSXT property. Drive back **LAUREL AVENUE** to **ROY WOOD STREET** and turn left. Go under railroad tracks and turn left on **DEPOT STREET**. The former L&N Depot, now a Visitors Center, gives a good view of the yard.

Continue on **DEPOT STREET**. It will lead back to **US 25W**. Turn left on **US 25W** and follow **US 25W** south. The railroad yard will be your left. Pick your pull offs. **US 25 W** will, at edge of town, make a turn to the right, but we will continue straight ahead following the railroad tracks. This is **KY 26** which will follow the railroad tracks to Williamsburg, with the track running both east and west of **KY 26**. Outside of Williamsburg, **KY26** will "T" with **US25W**.

At **US 25W** turn left to Williamsburg. Turn right on **KY 296** and cross the Cumberland River. Go to the second cross street, **THIRD STREET**. Turn right on **THIRD STREET** to small park at end of road. Great view of CSXT Bridge over Cumberland River. Return to **KY 296** and turn right. Turn left on **DEPOT STREET**, just before railroad track is the former L&N Depot, which is now a local museum.

Return to **US 25W** and turn right. Follow **US 25W** south. You will pass over railroad track. First road on right will be **SAVOY CREEK ROAD**. Turn right here and drive back to wye that serves track that runs east to the coal load out at Gatliff.

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SIDE TRIP

Return to **US 25W** and turn right. At **KY 92** turn right to reach **KY 904**. At **KY 904** turn right for Gatliff and coal load out. Upon reaching Gatliff turn around and return to **US 25W**. At **US 25W** turn left.

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Return to **US 25W** and turn left for Jellico, Tennessee. You will be running trackside most of the way and will pass a small coal loadout. At **KY 1804** turn left. Follow **KY 1804** along the track.

At the community of Lot **KY 1804** will go under the track. Go under the track and make an immediate left onto **FAIRVIEW DEPOT ROAD**. Stop before railroad track. This is the location of the junction with CSXT's Jellico Branch.

WARNING – Do not believe your GPS if it shows that you can continue on FAIRVIEW DEPOT ROAD to Jellico, Tennessee, There is a swamp ahead that can only be crossed in high clearance 4-wheel drive vehicles.

Return to **KY 1804** and turn left. You will follow the CSX track to Jellico, Tennessee, and **US 25W**. At **US 25W** turn left for Jellico. Within Jellico signs will direct you to **I-75**.