

75TH EDITION
TRAVEL PLANNER

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

A MILEPOST-BY-MILEPOST
**GUIDE TO THE
PARKWAY**

Plus:
OUTDOOR EXPLORATIONS,
WILDLIFE WATCHING,
SHOPPING, DINING,
LODGING & MORE



blueridgeparkway.org

Welcome to the Blue Ridge Parkway!

The Blue Ridge Parkway, often called "America's Favorite Drive," covers 469 scenic miles, connecting Shenandoah National Park and Skyline Drive in Virginia to Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina. This remarkable journey winds through lush forests, rolling mountains, and valleys filled with unique natural and cultural treasures. It is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts, with hundreds of hiking trails, peaceful picnic areas, and countless ways to reconnect with nature. Along the way, you'll find waterfalls, sweeping overlooks, vibrant wildflowers, and diverse wildlife. The Parkway is a paradise for nature lovers, photographers, and visitors seeking adventure and discovery.

As the longtime partner of the Parkway, the Blue Ridge Parkway Association is here to help you make the most of your visit along this breathtaking mountain corridor. Whether you're driving, hiking, or pausing to embrace the tranquility of the mountains, let the Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner be your companion as you explore the natural beauty, rich history, and welcoming hospitality of the region.

Now celebrating its 75th Edition, the Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner has inspired generations of visitors and continues to serve as a trusted guide to the communities, attractions, mountain landscapes, and unforgettable experiences found along the Parkway.



Lisa E. Bottomley
Executive Director
Blue Ridge Parkway Association

**Blue Ridge Parkway
Travel Planner, 75th Edition**



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The free *Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner* is the official publication of the member-supported Blue Ridge Parkway Association. As a longtime partner of the Blue Ridge Parkway–National Park Service, the association is committed to providing trustworthy visitor information in cooperation with regional travel partners, local businesses, and attractions along the scenic corridor of the Shenandoah National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the tri-state region of Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Travel-related businesses within this region are eligible for membership.

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**Cover photography:
David McKenzie**

**Back cover photography:
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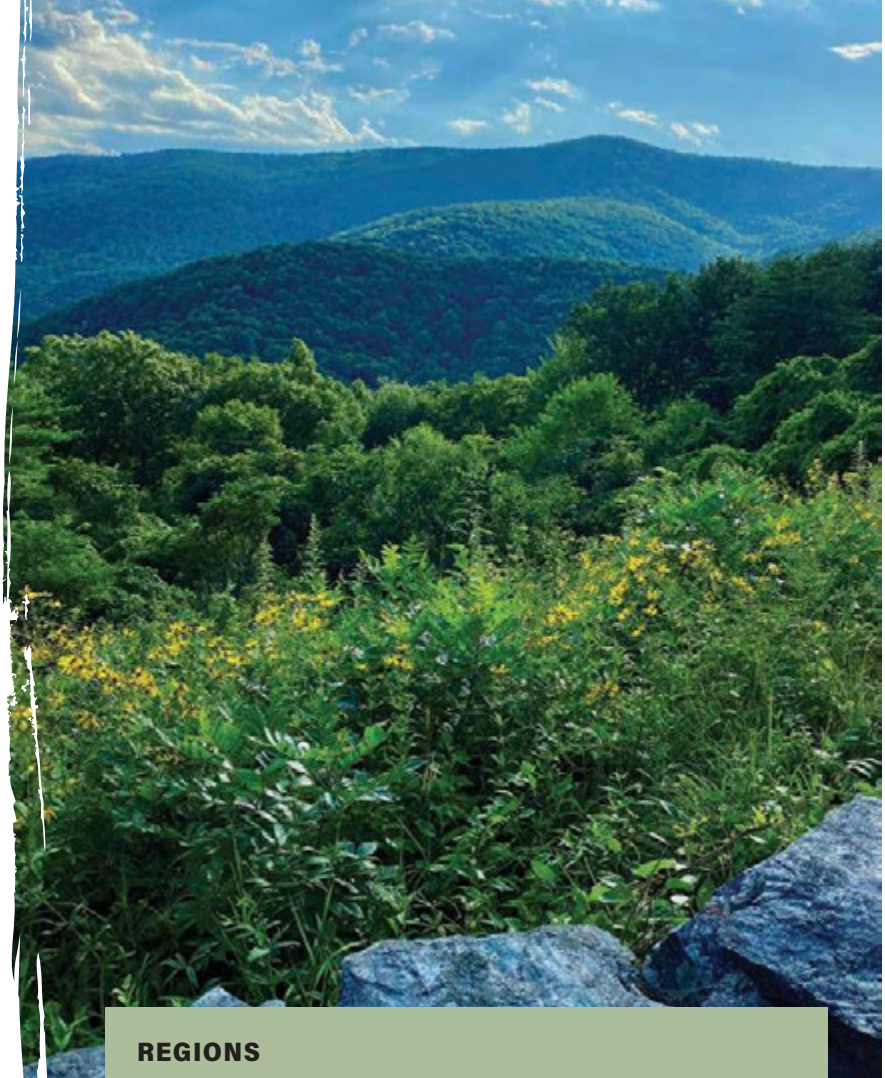
DAVID MCKENZIE
Doughton Park

Scan here for up-to-date information on road, facility, and attraction closures.

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BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY TRAVEL PLANNER APP

“AMERICA’S FAVORITE DRIVE” AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

Get this free app for 469 miles of scenic places, historic sites, lodging, and outdoor attractions. Includes extended information on Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks.

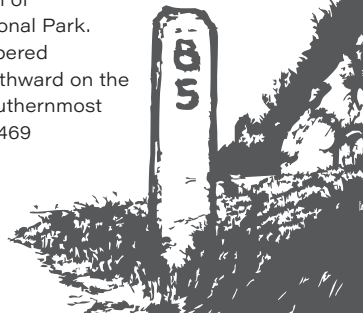
Planned and developed in cooperation with the Blue Ridge Parkway–National Park Service.



Scan to download

MILEPOSTS

Along the Parkway, you will see numbered Blue Ridge Parkway Mileposts. The 0 Milepost marker is at Rockfish Gap immediately south of Shenandoah National Park. Each mile is numbered progressively southward on the Parkway to its southernmost point at Milepost 469 at Cherokee.





Parkway Mileposts

Explore the Blue Ridge Parkway Mile by Mile

The Blue Ridge Parkway is one of the most popular units of the National Park system. Winding its way through 469 miles of mountains and meadows, the Parkway connects Shenandoah National Park at Milepost 0 in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park at Milepost 469 in North Carolina.

On and off the Parkway, visitors will find majestic mountain vistas and scenic drives; outstanding hiking, biking, and equestrian trails; world-class whitewater and waterfalls; excellent campsites and fishing streams; and an incredible diversity of plant and animal life.

Those searching for cultural experiences and historical connections will discover a land rich in living traditions of music, craft, and heritage. Split-rail fences, old farmsteads, and historic structures complement spectacular views of distant mountains and neighboring valleys.

Here are a few destinations you won't want to miss.

Peaks of Otter
DAVID MCKENZIE



Humpback Rocks

MILEPOST 5.8

HUMPBACK ROCKS

Hike to the famed rock outcropping high on the mountain to enjoy the magnificent view or stroll through the farm museum. In summer and fall, rangers and volunteers can be found at the farm site to answer questions and, occasionally, demonstrate 19th-century Appalachian life.

Highlights: Visitor center and museum, historic farm, hiking trails, picnic area

MILEPOST 85.9

PEAKS OF OTTER

Stunning mountain views, cool summer temperatures, and amazing natural resources have enticed visitors to Peaks of Otter for centuries. Climb to the rocky peak of Sharp Top or relax on the shore of Abbott Lake.

Highlights: Visitor center, historic lodge, Polly Wood's Ordinary, Johnson Farm, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant

MILEPOST 167.1–176.3

ROCKY KNOB & MABRY MILL

The sights and sounds of rural life in Appalachia resonate throughout the Rocky Knob area during the summer and fall. Stop by Mabry Mill to view the old mill, enjoy cultural demonstrations, or tap your toes to traditional mountain music on the first and third Sundays in June, July, and August.

Highlights: Visitor center, historic mill, cultural demonstrations, summer concerts, hiking trails, campground, picnic area

MILEPOST 213

BLUE RIDGE MUSIC CENTER

Traditional folk music and dance have been created and kept alive in this region over the centuries. Here, visitors can explore the

interactive Roots of American Music museum and enjoy live music daily from Memorial Day through October, as well as the Summer Concert Series during the warmer months.

Highlights: Visitor center and museum, live folk music and jam sessions, hiking trails

MILEPOST 238.5–241.1

DOUGHTON PARK

Appalachian history comes to life among the ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides here. Hike 30 miles of trails, visit Brinegar Cabin, and stop for a bite at The Bluffs restaurant.

Highlights: Visitor center, Brinegar Cabin, The Bluffs restaurant, hiking trails, campground, picnic area

MILEPOST 292.7–295.8

MOSES H. CONE MEMORIAL PARK

Moses H. Cone fashioned a textile empire by bringing denim production to the South in the late 1800s. He and his wife, Bertha, built Flat Top Manor at the turn of the 20th century. Explore the manor or stroll along 25 miles of carriage trails on the estate.

Highlights: Craft store, historic estate and grounds, hiking trails, horseback riding

DAVID MCKENZIE
Mabry Mill

NPS

Brinegar Cabin
Doughton Park



Flat Top Manor at Moses H. Cone Memorial Park



PLACES TO PAUSE & ACCESSIBILITY

Scan this code for seasonal availability of food and lodging. Note that access to some areas may be limited or restricted. Visit nps.gov/blri for up-to-date information.

	Milepost	Visitor Center	Exhibits	Programs	Restrooms	Picnic Areas	Camping
Humpback Rocks	5.8	♿	♿	♿	♿	✗	
Otter Creek	60.9			♿	♿		♿
James River	63.8		♿			✗	
Peaks of Otter*	85.9	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿
Explore Park Visitor Center	115	♿	♿		♿		
Roanoke Mountain	120.4			♿	♿	♿	
Rocky Knob	169	♿		♿	♿	♿	♿
Mabry Mill	176.2		♿	♿	♿		
Groundhog Mountain	188.8				♿	♿	
Blue Ridge Music Center	213	♿	♿	♿	♿		
Cumberland Knob	217.5		♿		♿	♿	
Doughton Park**	241	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿
Jeffress Park	272				♿	♿	
Moses H. Cone Memorial Park	294	♿	♿		♿		
Price Park	297.1			♿	♿	♿	♿
Linn Cove Viaduct	304.4				♿		
⚠ Linville Falls	316.4				✗	♿	♿
Minerals Museum	331	♿	♿	♿	♿		
⚠ Crabtree Campground	339.5				♿	♿	♿
Craggy Gardens	364.5	♿	♿	✗	♿	♿	
Folk Art Center	382	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿	
Parkway Visitor Center	384	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿	
Mount Pisgah*	408.6			♿	♿	♿	♿
Waterrock Knob	451.2	♿	♿	♿	♿	♿	

♿ - Wheelchair Accessible | ♿ - Accessible with Assistance | ✗ - Not Wheelchair Accessible
 * - Lodging and Dining Available | ** - Dining Available |
 ⚠ Closures in effect. Check nps.gov/blri for current conditions and updates.

MILEPOST 296.4–298.6

JULIAN PRICE MEMORIAL PARK

Julian Price established one of the nation's largest insurance companies and purchased this land in the 1930s as a recreational retreat for his employees. Visitors today find opportunities to explore the mountains through camping, picnicking, and canoeing and fishing on Price Lake.

Highlights: Hiking trails, canoeing, fishing, campground, picnic area

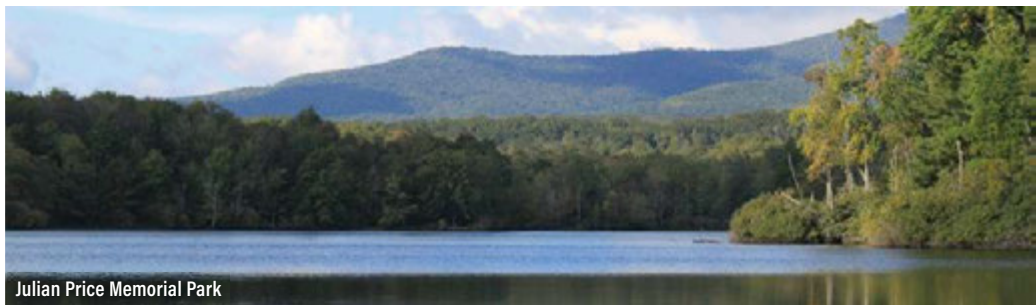
MILEPOST 304

LINN COVE VIADUCT

The rugged slopes of Grandfather Mountain challenged engineers as they completed this last section of the Parkway in 1987. A world-renowned marvel of engineering, the viaduct was painstakingly designed to protect the ecologically sensitive slopes of the mountain.

Highlights: Historic architecture/ Parkway design, hiking trails

BLOWING ROCK NC TOURISM



Julian Price Memorial Park

CHELSEA LANE PHOTOGRAPHY



Folk Art Center

LISA GREGORY

Linn Cove Viaduct



MILEPOST 330.9

THE MUSEUM OF

NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS

Discover the area's rich mineral resources and mining heritage with hands-on exhibits that explore the creation of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the region's wide variety of minerals. Use mapping resources to find an alternative route during closures.

Highlights: Visitor center and museum

MILEPOST 364.1

Craggy Gardens

These high-elevation summits are home to spectacular rhododendron displays in May and early June, and to a unique forest of gnarled and twisted trees that has been shaped by harsh weather. Access to this area is subject to change. Visit [nps.gov/blri](https://www.nps.gov/blri) for up-to-date information.

Highlights: Visitor center, hiking trails, rhododendron blooms, picnic area

MILEPOST 382

FOLK ART CENTER

Find a large array of regional crafts created by members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild as well as National Park Service visitor information and a park bookstore. Craft demonstrations provide opportunities to meet the artists at work.

Highlights: Folk art exhibition hall, hiking trails, park store

MILEPOST 384.5

PARKWAY VISITOR CENTER, ASHEVILLE

No Parkway visit is complete without stopping at this visitor center. Enjoy an orientation video, explore exhibits on Parkway history and design, discover regional recreation opportunities, and shop for souvenirs.

Highlights: Visitor center and park film, National Heritage Area information, park store, hiking trails

MILEPOST 407.6

MOUNT PISGAH

Reach new heights as you explore Mount Pisgah, the birthplace of forestry. Hike historic trails, spend the night at the Parkway's highest campground or lodge, and be sure to catch the sunrise. Visit nps.gov/blri for more information.

Highlights: Historic lodge, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant

MILEPOST 451.2

WATERROCK KNOB

Touch the clouds at the southernmost and highest elevation visitor center on the Parkway. Come prepared for cooler weather and spend time enjoying mountain views that stretch to the horizon.

Highlights: Visitor center, hiking trails

VICKI DAMERON



Museum of North Carolina Minerals

DAVID MCKENZIE



Waterrock Knob

BRIAN WELLS



Tips for a Safe Drive

Because of its unique design, the Parkway drive differs from most, requiring extra care to ensure safe travels.

STEEP GRADES & SPEED CHANGES

The Parkway's speed limit is mostly 45 mph, dropping to 35 mph in some developed areas. Some Parkway sections have steep grades, causing speed to increase unexpectedly.

UNFORGIVING ROAD SHOULDERS

The Parkway has narrow shoulders and deep ruts; stay on paved roadway or surface while driving.

WATCH FOR WILDLIFE

Many types of large wildlife call this region home. Keep a watchful eye out for animals, especially deer and elk, crossing the road.

SPIRAL CURVES

The Parkway's spiral curves require extra attention, especially for motorcyclists.

TUNNELS

Most tunnels have sufficient clearance, but several near Cherokee have less than 12 feet. For a list of tunnel heights, see page 72 in this guide, or visit blueridgeparkway.org/tunnels.



Cardinal

Birds, Bears & Wildflowers

Witness the Extraordinary Biodiversity Along the Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is not just a scenic drive—it's a thriving corridor of biodiversity. The Parkway's diverse habitats support such an extraordinary range of plant and animal life that the Parkway is one of the most ecologically rich places in the world.

WILDLIFE OF THE PARKWAY

With its varied ecosystems and elevation changes, the wildlife habitats of the Blue Ridge Parkway support some of the most fascinating and abundant animal life in the Appalachian region.



Rhododendron

BLACK BEARS

Black bears are a common sight along the Parkway, with healthy populations in both Virginia and North Carolina. If you spot a bear, to ensure your safety—and that of the bear—stay at least 50 yards away and observe it from the safety of your vehicle. Never feed bears, as human food disrupts their natural diet and can lead to dangerous behavior. If a bear approaches, slowly back away without running, allowing the bear to move away as well.

ELK

Due to overhunting and habitat loss, the southern Appalachians' elk population was wiped out in the late 1700s. After being reintroduced in 2002, elk herds are now seen along the southern end of the Parkway. A full-grown elk can weigh as much as 700 pounds and stand up to five feet tall at the shoulder. To safely view these impressive creatures, always stay in your vehicle and maintain a safe distance, especially during the fall mating season.

“If you spot a bear stay at least 50 yards away and observe it from the safety of your vehicle.”

LISA GREGORY



Black bear



Flame Azalea



Virginia Bluebells



Monarch butterfly

DAVID MCKENZIE

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

In mid-September, monarch butterflies begin their remarkable migration along the Parkway, traveling from north to south. These iconic orange-and-black butterflies are often seen feeding on milkweed plants throughout the summer. Witness this migration at the Cherry Cove Parking Overlook (Milepost 415.7), where thousands of monarchs pass through daily.

BIRDING

With so many bird species to see, birding is a popular activity along the Parkway. Especially notable is the fall hawk migration. A number of hawk species use thermals—warm air rising from valleys—to gain altitude while conserving energy as they glide southward. Harvey’s Knob Overlook

(Milepost 93.5), the Grandfather corridor (Mileposts 302–305), and Mahogany Rock (Milepost 235), are great spots to see this phenomenon from September to November. For a downloadable species checklist of birds you can see in the region, visit nps.gov/blri/learn/nature/birds.htm.

PLANT LIFE OF THE PARKWAY

From vibrant wildflowers to towering trees, the Blue Ridge Parkway’s ecosystems support an impressive range of species throughout the seasons.

RHODODENDRON

See the striking purple blooms of catawba rhododendron near the Peaks of Otter

in Virginia starting in early June and at Craggy Gardens in North Carolina closer to mid-June. Rosebay rhododendron, a larger variety with white or pink flowers, blooms later, starting in late June and continuing into July. See the stunning displays throughout the summer around Rocky Knob in Virginia and into North Carolina.

WILDFLOWERS

May is undoubtedly the most rewarding month for wildflower enthusiasts in the region, with many species of wildflowers in full bloom. Visitors can spot May apple, trillium, jack-in-the-pulpit, lady slippers, bleeding heart, firepink, and lingering bloodroot during this time. Elevation plays a key role in bloom timing, so a leisurely drive or hike offers the best chance to experience this vibrant display.

FALL FOLIAGE

In a park that is 469 miles long and varies by more than 5,000 feet in elevation, the best plan for witnessing fall color is to drive some distance on the Parkway, changing elevations and north-south orientation. Many factors contribute to when and where colors will peak, with moisture and temperatures being key variables. With some patience and a bit of luck, you'll experience the full beauty of the Blue Ridge in autumn's glory.

Blue Ridge Parkway by the Seasons

The Parkway's elevation ranges from 649 to 6,053 feet, causing rapid weather changes. Always dress in layers, carry a jacket, and stay aware of local weather forecasts, regardless of the season.



SPRING

Mountain spring is unpredictable. Winter weather, including sudden cold fronts, snow, afternoon rain, and below-freezing

temperatures, can sometimes linger as late as mid-April.



SUMMER

Summer in the mountains is hot and humid at lower elevations but cool at higher ones, with afternoon

thunderstorms and the occasional need for a light jacket.



FALL

In late September, expect to experience warm days, cool nights, and frost at high elevations. By late October, highs stay in the 50s-60s,

with snow possible in November.

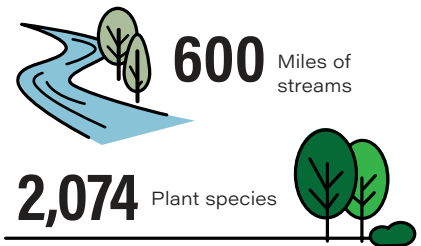
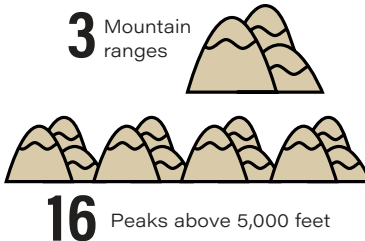


WINTER

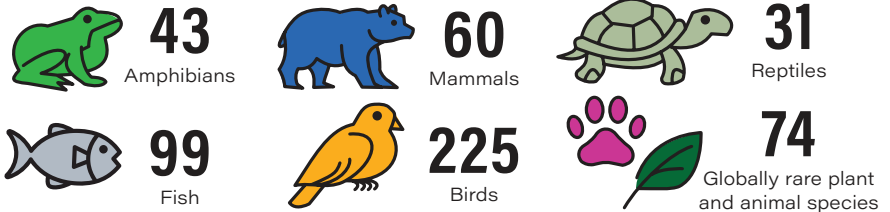
Winter weather can be extreme, with wind, ice, and snow. Be prepared for sudden storms and road closures.

By the Numbers

Surrounded by scenic beauty and ecological diversity, the Parkway contains



A wide variety of animal species include



Meander Mindfully

Staying safe on the Blue Ridge Parkway means respecting its wildlife and plant life. Protect the area by following guidelines, staying on trails, and avoiding interactions with animals.

FOOD & DRINK

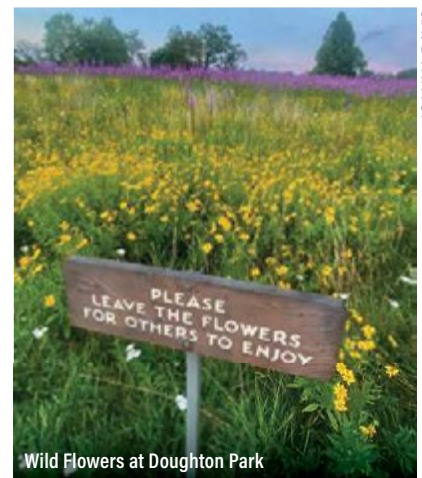
The best diet for all animals is a natural one. Wild animals like the taste of human food, but for their safety and health, do not feed them.

RABIES

Rabies can be transmitted by most wild animals. Animals in the park should not be treated as pets or lured close enough to feed or touch. If a wild animal approaches you, it could be a sign of serious illness. Please tell a park ranger.

POACHING

All plants on the Parkway are protected. Many of our native wildflowers in the Blue Ridge are threatened by illegal harvesting. If you see anyone collecting plants on the Parkway, report it to a ranger.



Wild Flowers at Doughton Park

JOANNA DAVIS

WATCH YOUR STEP

Many of the Parkway's rare and endangered plants are threatened by foot traffic. Please stay on the trail to protect all plants and to prevent erosion.



JOANNA L. DAVIS

Tips for a Responsible Visit

Follow These Simple Dos & Don'ts to Help Protect the Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway inspires pride, appreciation, and responsibility. Help preserve this beautiful landscape by following these common-sense principles and park regulations.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Bring a map; don't just trust your GPS.
- Check in advance to see what's open and what current regulations are in place. Note: On the Parkway, swimming is never allowed in lakes, rivers, or streams, and boating (non-motorized and no sails) is only permitted on Price Lake.

- Choose lesser-known areas and off-peak travel times such as weekdays and off season.
- Bring appropriate clothing and be prepared for changing weather.

PARK, PITCH, PROTECT

- Along the Parkway, parking is allowed on paved parking areas and pullouts to protect road edges.
- Camping is permitted only in park campgrounds or designated backcountry campsites.

PLAY IT SAFE WITH FIRE

- On the Parkway, fires are permitted in the provided grills or firepits in campgrounds and picnic areas only.
- Use wood that is dead and on the ground or bring in heat-treated wood that is certified free of invasive insects.
- Make sure that your fire is completely cool to the touch before leaving.
- Use a camp stove instead of a fire.

LEAVE NO LITTER

- Take all your trash with you when you leave, including pet waste and toilet paper.

KEEP THE WILDLIFE WILD

- View wildlife from a distance that doesn't cause them to change their behavior.
- Don't feed wildlife. It is bad for their health and safety as well as yours.
- Keep your food and trash secure so wildlife can't access it.
- Hunting and trapping are prohibited on the Parkway.

PRESERVE THE PARK FOR OTHERS

- Leave natural items like fossils and flowers for others to appreciate.
- Don't transport plants, flowers, or wood to prevent the spread of invasive species.
- Refrain from leaving your mark on trees, benches, rocks, or other structures.

SHARE THIS SPECIAL PLACE

- Trails on the Parkway are for hiking only. Bicycles and motorized vehicles are not permitted.
- Make space on the trail so that others can pass you.
- When parking at trailheads and overlooks, leave space for others and keep your vehicle off the roadway.
- If you are on a bicycle or in a slow-moving vehicle, pull over when it is safe to do so to allow others to pass.
- All pets must be leashed (maximum six feet) and under physical control at all times. Only service animals are permitted in Parkway facilities.



VIRGINIA TOURISM



BIRAN WELLS

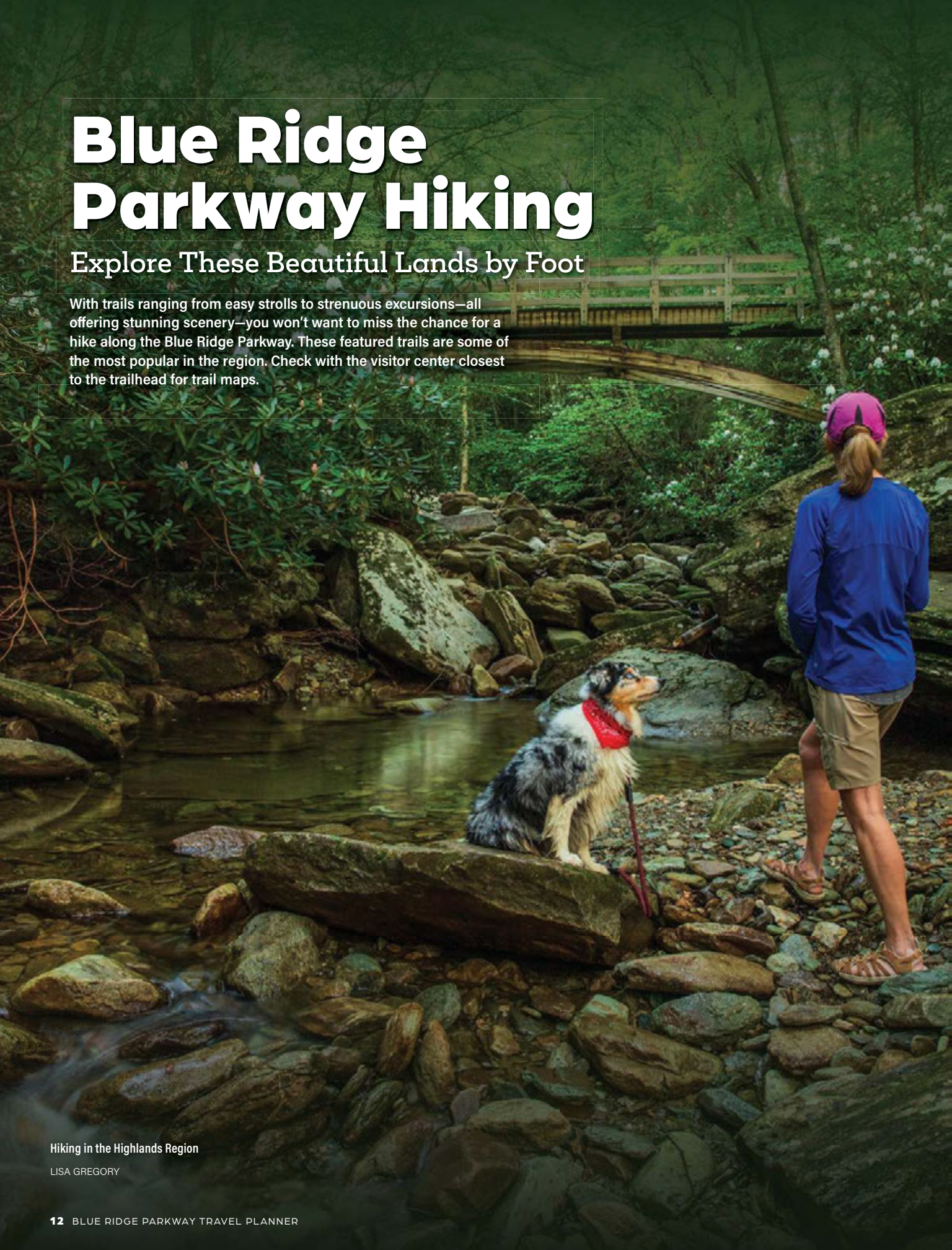


BIRAN WELLS

Blue Ridge Parkway Hiking

Explore These Beautiful Lands by Foot

With trails ranging from easy strolls to strenuous excursions—all offering stunning scenery—you won't want to miss the chance for a hike along the Blue Ridge Parkway. These featured trails are some of the most popular in the region. Check with the visitor center closest to the trailhead for trail maps.



Hiking in the Highlands Region

LISA GREGORY

Virginia Trails



Trail	Milepost	Difficulty	Miles	Elevation Gain
Humpback Rocks Trail	5.9	Strenuous	1	700 feet
Otter Creek & James River Hiking Trails	60.8-63.6	Easy-moderate	4.5	167 feet
Trail of Trees Loop	63.6	Moderate	0.5	N/A
Fallingwater Cascades*	83.1	Moderate	1.6	446 feet
Flat Top	83.5	Strenuous	4.4	1,600 feet
Abbott Lake Loop	85.7	Easy (wheelchair accessible)	1	32 feet
Elk Run Loop	85.9	Easy	0.8	72 feet
Johnson Farm Loop & Harkening Hil	85.9	Moderate	5.4	875 feet
Sharp Top	86	Strenuous	1.6	1,259 feet
Stewarts Knob	110.6	Moderate	1.2	229 feet
Roanoke River Loop	114.9	Easy	0.35	167 feet
Roanoke Mountain Loop	120.4	Easy	0.4	55 feet
Smart View Loop	154.5	Moderate	2.6	442 feet
Rock Castle Gorge Loop	167.1	Strenuous	10.8	2,522 feet
Mabry Mill Loop	176.2	Easy	0.5	9 feet
Fisher Peak Loop	213	Moderate	2.25	531 feet



Hiking in the Ridge Region

BRIAN WELLS



Hiking the Mountains-to-Sea Trail

DAVID MCKENZIE

Note: Distances are one way except for loop trails.

See [nps.gov/blri](https://www.nps.gov/blri) for distances, features, walking conditions, and important advice.

*Designated National Recreation Trail

SOURCE: ALLTRAILS.COM

EXPLORE BREVARD



Looking Glass Falls

WATERFALL HIKES

Hiking to a waterfall can be a wonderful and rewarding experience. Each of these Parkway hikes offers captivating views of cascading falls. Remember: Always use extreme caution when hiking near water, as rocks can be slippery, and do not climb on rocks near waterfalls or dive or jump into park waters, as unseen hazards could be immediately below the water surface.

Apple Orchard Falls Milepost 78.4
Strenuous | 1.5 miles | elevation gain: 1,000 feet

Falling Water Cascades Milepost 83
Moderate | 0.6 mile | elevation gain: 446 feet

Looking Glass Falls Milepost 411
Easy | 0.15 mile | elevation gain: 36 feet

Skinny Dip Falls Milepost 417
Easy | 0.45 mile | elevation gain: 180 feet

Graveyard Fields Upper Falls Trail Milepost 419
Moderate | 1.5 miles | elevation gain: 321 feet.

North Carolina Trails



Trail	Milepost	Difficulty	Miles	Elevation Gain
Cumberland Knob & Gulley Creek Trail Loop	217.5	Easy-moderate	3.1	872 feet
Doughton Park: Bluff Mountain, Flat Rock Ridge & Cedar Ridge Loop	238.5	Strenuous	15.9	3,390 feet
Fodder Stack via Bluff Trail	241	Moderate	4	1,164 feet
Flat Top Mountain	294	Moderate	3	593 feet
Rich Mountain Carriage, Horse & Hiking Trail	294	Moderate	5.8	600 feet
Boone Fork Loop	296.5	Moderate-strenuous	5.5	524 feet
Rough Ridge via Linn Cove Viaduct Visitors Center	304.4	Moderate	1.8	738 feet
Tanawha Point to Point Trail** (MP 297-305)	305.5	Strenuous	13.5	2,260 feet
Craggy Pinnacle	364.2	Moderate	0.7	242 feet
Mount Pisgah Summit	407.6	Moderate-strenuous	1.3	702 feet
Frying Pan Mountain	408.5	Moderate-strenuous	1.06	357 feet
Graveyard Fields Stream Loop	418.8	Moderate	2.3	144 feet
John Rock Trail Loop	419.4	Moderate	4.6	1,066 feet
Richland Balsam	431	Moderate	1.5	383 feet
Waterrock Knob Summit	451.2	Moderate-strenuous	0.6	436 feet

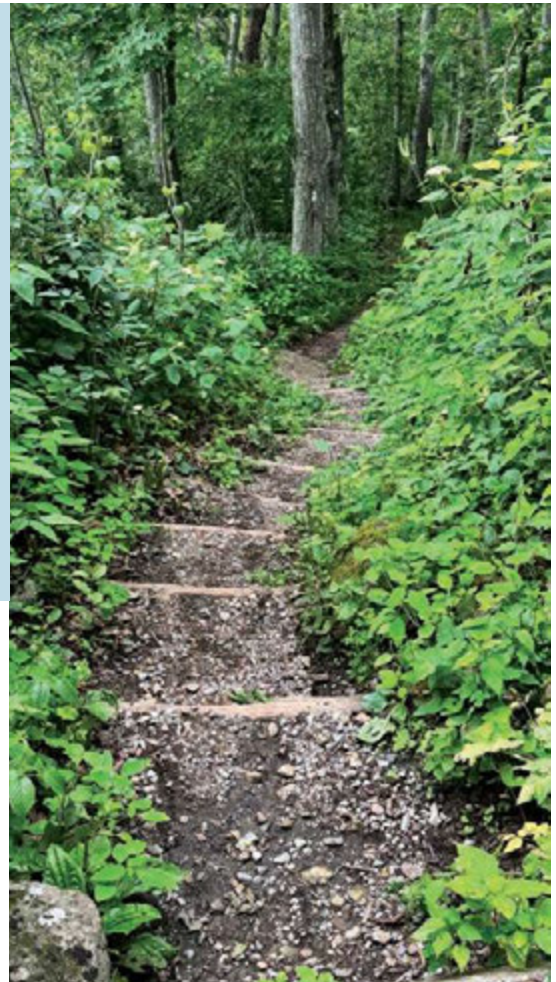
SOURCE: ALLTRAILS.COM

Note: Distances are one way except for loop trails. See nps.gov/blri for distances, features, walking conditions, and important advice.

**Tanawha has nine Parkway access points, several in the Grandfather Mountain area.

STAY SAFE ON THE TRAIL

- ⚠️ Some of the Blue Ridge Parkway's natural areas were heavily damaged by Hurricane Helene. It is recommended you visit nps.gov/blri for trail status. In areas where the Parkway is closed, trails are also closed. Take extreme caution when hiking due to downed trees and changed landscapes.
- Hiking shoes or boots are recommended for most trails, especially the more strenuous ones. Even for trails marked "easy," wear flat or rubber-soled shoes for comfort and good traction.
- Bring water with you. Do not drink the water from streams or springs.
- Be prepared for weather changes by bringing along suitable clothing. Sudden changes in weather are common in these mountains. Even in mild seasons, rapid dips in temperature and unexpected thunderstorms frequently occur, and at higher elevations the wind and temperature can carry a surprising chill.
- Lock valuables in the trunk of your car or take them with you.



LISA BOTTOMLEY



TRACK TRAILS

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation's Kids in Parks TRACK Trails program is a network of self-guided hiking trails for kids. Each trail has brochures designed to turn an ordinary hike into a fun-filled, discovery-packed adventure. Kids who hike these trails can register on the Kids in Parks website to win prizes. Visit the Parkway's TRACK Trails at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville, Julian Price Memorial Park, Blue Ridge Music Center, Mabry Mill, Rocky Knob Picnic Area, Peaks of Otter, and the James River Visitor Center. Visit kidsinparks.com to find dozens of additional TRACK Trails in communities near the Parkway.

Where the Stars Shine Bright

A Perfect Setting to Marvel at the Night Sky

Starry, starry night... These words might conjure up an image of van Gogh's famous painting or bring back memories of a popular 1970s song. A new memory to add to these is the beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the evenings.

Imagine driving along the Blue Ridge Parkway as the sun begins to set and the changing light of the late afternoon surrounds you. As the bright blue sky begins to darken and the day transitions to twilight, all you need to do is pull into an overlook and wait for the evening show to begin.

Natural sounds and natural lightscapes are essential to keeping our national treasures whole. They are magnificent in their own right and inspirational to the visitors who come to national parks. The National Park Service mission includes night skies

as a resource and value worth preserving—a protection that matters in an era when light pollution is increasing. America's national parks contain many cherished treasures. Among them are captivating natural sounds and awe-inspiring night skies. The joy of listening to the quiet sounds of nature and the wonderment of seeing the Milky Way stretching overhead are memorable experiences that can still be found in many of our national parks.

To learn more about the preservation of dark skies, visit the Dark Sky International website at darksky.org.

*Thanks to the **Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute** for their input for this article. PARI is a public not-for-profit organization dedicated to providing hands-on educational and research opportunities.*

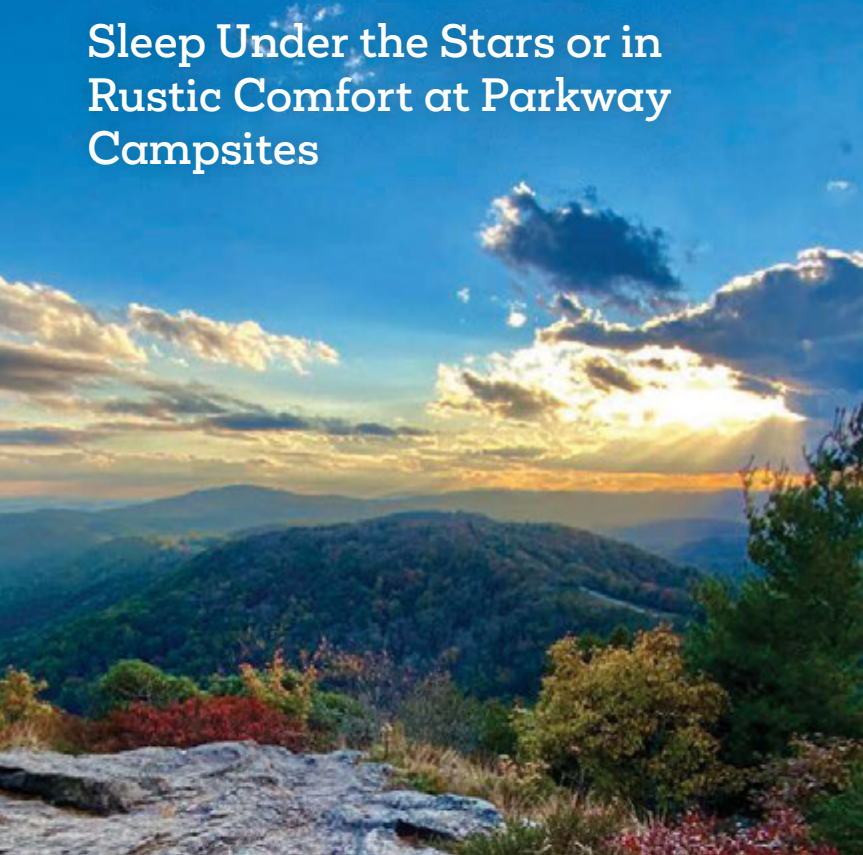
TIPS FOR OPTIMAL STARGAZING

Parkway overlooks provide excellent places to observe the evening sky. Just after sunset and evening twilight, you may first be able to see some larger planets and the moon. If your timing is right and the weather cooperates, as the sky continues to darken you might be lucky enough to view the Milky Way.

- Ask park staff or locals for recommendations for the best places to view the night sky.
- Viewing is best when no moon is visible and you are away from surrounding lights. Much of the Blue Ridge Parkway is protected from light pollution.
- Search for overlooks with a wide view overhead and minimal lights in the surrounding areas. Park safely and turn off your car lights.
- A red LED flashlight can help you see to avoid obstacles, such as curbs, while preserving your night vision. Placing red cellophane over a white flashlight also works.
- A planisphere, star map, or stargazing app can help you identify the objects in the night sky.
- Take a look through a telescope at one of the public observatories along the Parkway, including North Carolina's **Bare Dark Sky Observatory** near Spruce Pine and **Dark Sky Observatory** in Purlear.

An Overnight Stay on the Blue Ridge Parkway

Sleep Under the Stars or in Rustic Comfort at Parkway Campsites



The Blue Ridge Parkway isn't just a scenic drive—it's an invitation to immerse yourself in the beauty of the Appalachian Highlands. Camping along its 469 miles offers unique opportunities to enjoy mountain views, tranquil woodlands, and star-filled nights. The Parkway's eight campgrounds provide a variety of experiences for tent campers and RV travelers, offering restrooms, picnic tables, and grills. While no hookups are available, the settings are serene and conveniently located near hiking trails.

Here's a closer look at some campgrounds that offer special features, from waterfall adventures to cool, high-altitude escapes.

MOUNT PISGAH CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 408.8

Perched at 4,980 feet along the Blue Ridge Parkway, Mount Pisgah Campground offers a cool, shaded retreat surrounded by hardwood forests and sweeping mountain views. One of the Parkway's most popular campgrounds, it provides both tent and RV sites with amenities including drinking water, flush toilets, and a dump station.

Nearby overlooks offer stunning sunrise and sunset vistas, while access to trails like **Frying Pan** and the **Mountains-to-Sea Trail** make it a great base for hiking. Located near the historic Pisgah Inn, the area blends scenic beauty, outdoor adventure, and rich Appalachian history.

JULIAN PRICE PARK CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 297

Set beside the sparkling waters of **Price Lake**, Julian Price Park Campground is perfect for families and outdoor enthusiasts. It features 197 campsites and easy access to the **Price Lake Loop Trail**, which circles the lake for a peaceful hike. For those seeking adventure, the **Tanawha Trail** offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains.

JOANNA L. DAVIS
Doughton Park



For information regarding availability and closures, please visit [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov). Status is subject to change.

During the summer, visitors can rent kayaks or canoes to paddle on the lake, making this campground a favorite for water lovers. As one of only two Parkway campgrounds with hot showers, it's an excellent choice for extended stays.

DOUGHTON PARK CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 239

Nestled amid rolling meadows and picturesque ridges, Doughton Park Campground offers a peaceful escape into the heart of the Blue Ridge Parkway. With 110 tent and RV sites, it's perfect for campers looking for a serene experience surrounded by wildflowers and sweeping mountain views. Nearby, The Bluffs restaurant—a historic spot recently reopened—serves up hearty breakfasts and traditional Southern fare.

Visitors to Doughton Park can enjoy more than 30 miles of hiking trails, including the challenging **Bluff Mountain Trail**, which provides access to stunning vistas. Seasonal ranger programs offer opportunities to learn about the area's history, flora, and fauna.

ROCKY KNOB CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 167

For a more rugged experience, Rocky Knob Campground provides access to backcountry camping and one of the Parkway's most challenging trails, the **Rock Castle Gorge Trail**. This 10.8-mile loop leads hikers through diverse environments, including rhododendron thickets, old-growth forests, and historic sites.

The campground's tranquil setting makes it an excellent spot for stargazing, thanks to the lack of light pollution.

“Rocky Knob Campground provides access to backcountry camping.”



NPS



PEAKS OF OTTER CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 86

Nestled at the base of **Sharp Top Mountain**, Peaks of Otter Campground combines natural beauty with cultural history. Visitors can hike to the summit for sweeping views or explore **Johnson Farm**, a restored Appalachian homestead.

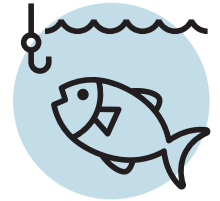
Stroll along the stream that winds through the campground, or bring a fishing license and cast for bluegill or small mouth bass in nearby **Abbott Lake**.

OTTER CREEK CAMPGROUND

MILEPOST 60

Located at Milepost 167 on the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia, Rocky Knob Campground offers a classic mountain camping experience surrounded by rolling meadows, wildflowers, and expansive night skies.

Set within the scenic Rocky Knob Recreation Area, the campground provides both tent and RV sites with amenities like drinking water, flush toilets, and a dump station. Nearby trails, including the challenging **Rock Castle Gorge** loop, showcase rugged terrain and rich Appalachian history.



Go Fishing

The Parkway lies along the headwaters of many regional watersheds. Thirteen lakes were constructed for aesthetic beauty and recreational opportunities. Streams, ponds, and rivers give anglers ample opportunity to cast their lines for trout, bass, and panfish. A state license from either North Carolina or Virginia is valid for fishing in all park waters. Creel limits and other regulations vary. Ask a ranger for details.



Camping Tips & Essentials

Campgrounds are open from May through October, with first-come, first-served sites available at all locations. Reservations can be made at [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) or by calling 877-444-6777.

While most campgrounds accommodate RVs, none offer hookups. Plan accordingly and bring essentials like solar chargers or battery-powered equipment.

Firewood must be heat-treated and certified to prevent the spread of invasive pests. Certified wood is available at visitor centers and local stores, or campers can use deadwood found near their campsites.

Past, Present & Future

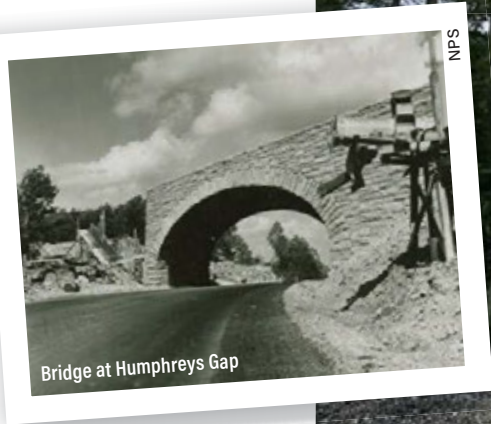
The Story of the Blue Ridge Parkway: A Vision Worth Preserving

The Blue Ridge Parkway, often called "America's Favorite Drive," is more than just a scenic road; it's a masterpiece of engineering, conservation, and vision. Stretching 469 miles through the Appalachian Highlands of North Carolina and Virginia, the Parkway weaves together breathtaking views, rich history, and abundant opportunities for recreation. It is often the most visited unit of the National Park Service, offering millions of visitors a chance to connect with nature, history, and Appalachian culture each year.

A VISION COMES TO LIFE

The idea for the Blue Ridge Parkway began during the Great Depression in the 1930s. As part of the New Deal programs creating jobs across America, President Franklin D. Roosevelt approved the construction of the Parkway in 1933 in a broad effort to stimulate the economy while conserving the nation's natural beauty. The Parkway was envisioned as a scenic road that would link **Great Smoky Mountains National Park** in North Carolina with **Shenandoah National Park** in Virginia.

Construction began in 1935 near Cumberland Knob in North Carolina. Teams of skilled workers, including some employed through New Deal initiatives like the Civilian Conservation Corps and Works Progress Administration, carved the road through rugged mountains, creating stunning overlooks and tunnels that harmonized with the landscape.



Installation of concrete segments at Laurel Fork Bridge, North Carolina

Sections of the Parkway were completed incrementally over several decades. The final piece, the spectacular **Linn Cove Viaduct**, was completed in 1987. This engineering marvel skirts the slopes of Grandfather Mountain, blending seamlessly with its surroundings. Today, the Parkway is a testament to the vision of landscape architects, engineers, and conservationists who worked to balance development and preservation.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CARE & MAINTENANCE

Maintaining the Parkway's infrastructure, conserving its natural habitats, and preserving its cultural heritage require ongoing care and resources. Multiple road maintenance projects are underway in any given year on the Blue Ridge Parkway. These projects, aimed at maintaining infrastructure and preserving the Parkway's natural appeal, can include roadway

resurfacing, bridge repair and replacement, signage improvement, and other infrastructure upgrades.

Funding and project management for road maintenance along the Blue Ridge Parkway are planned in cooperation with the Federal Lands Transportation Program, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). In addition to regular FHWA funding, the Parkway also benefits from historic infrastructure investments made possible by the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA), a concerted effort to address the



Parkway volunteers



NPS

extensive maintenance and repair backlog in national parks. The Blue Ridge Parkway has received more than \$200 million from GAOA to address long-needed infrastructure improvements.

HOW YOU CAN HELP PRESERVE THE PARKWAY

Preserving the Blue Ridge Parkway is not only the responsibility of organizations—it's a shared effort involving everyone who enjoys this remarkable resource.

One impactful way visitors can contribute is by volunteering with the **National Park Service** (NPS). Volunteers play a crucial role in protecting and enhancing the Parkway. Learn more at nps.gov/blri/getinvolved/volunteer.htm.

Visitors can also support the Parkway by helping organizations dedicated to the preservation of the Parkway for future generations, such as the **Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation**. Founded in 1997, this nonprofit organization funds critical Parkway projects, including restoring trails, maintaining historic landmarks, and supporting educational programs. By supporting the foundation, visitors contribute to the long-term sustainability of this treasured national asset.



NPS

DOES THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY CLOSE FOR THE WINTER?

Visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway often ask when the Parkway closes for the winter. The Parkway motor road remains open, weather permitting, although most park facilities close seasonally. Temporary weather- or maintenance-related closures may impact Parkway travel during the winter months. For up-to-date information on road conditions along the historic 469-mile route, visit nps.gov/blri. The information on this web page is updated daily.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

The Blue Ridge Parkway is an extraordinary journey that connects us all to nature, history, culture, wildlife, and welcoming mountain communities. With all its wonders, the Parkway is one of the most visited national parks.

Caring for this incredible 469-mile ribbon of road is a tremendous undertaking. Many parks charge entrance fees to fund operations, but the Parkway is free to explore year-round. That's why your support is so important.

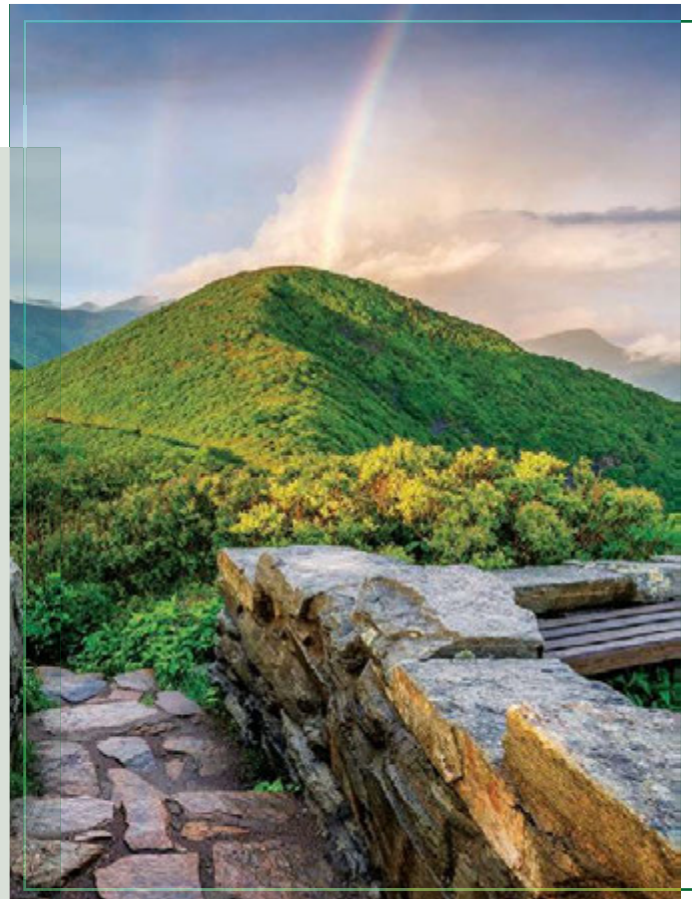
We invite you to help protect and enhance the Parkway today! Your support is not just a donation; it's a heartfelt commitment to preserving the trails, protecting the diverse wildlife, and safeguarding the historical treasures that define this incredible national park.

866-308-2773
brpfoundation.org

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation
717 S. Marshall St., Suite 105B
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

[@brpkwyfoundation](https://www.instagram.com/brpkwyfoundation)

[@blueridgeparkwayfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/blueridgeparkwayfoundation)



A Journey Through Murals, Music & Crafts

Discover the Cultural Trails of the Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is renowned not only for its breathtaking mountain views but also as a gateway to the cultural heart of Appalachia. Visitors can immerse themselves in a rich tapestry of art, music, and craftsmanship by exploring the Appalachian Mural Trail, Blue Ridge Craft Trails, Blue Ridge Music Trails, and Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, known as The Crooked Road. Together, these trails celebrate the region's traditions and creativity, offering an unforgettable experience.

APPALACHIAN MURAL TRAIL

Spanning towns in North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee, the Appalachian Mural Trail is a visual journey into Appalachian history, culture, and natural beauty. Each mural tells a story, from the vibrant depictions of Cherokee heritage to the scenic landscapes that echo the Parkway itself. Towns like **Buena Vista**, Virginia, **Mountain City**, Tennessee, and **West Jefferson**, North Carolina, showcase standout works that highlight the legacy of mountain communities. Visitors can use the trail's interactive map to explore murals at their own pace, discovering hidden gems in charming small towns. These murals create perfect photo opportunities while connecting travelers with the stories of the region's people. muraltrail.com

Mangum-Cater on Main Studio & Gallery in Sparta, North Carolina



BRNHA

Oconaluftee Indian Village in Cherokee, North Carolina



WAYNESBORO, VA TOURISM

Mural in Waynesboro, NC

BLUE RIDGE CRAFT TRAILS

The Blue Ridge Craft Trails are a testament to the time-honored skills of Appalachian artisans. Stretching across western North Carolina, the trails highlight hundreds of galleries, studios, and craft workshops. Visitors can watch master potters at work, explore intricate quilting designs, or even try their hand at creating their own crafts. Stops such as the **John C. Campbell Folk School** in **Brasstown** or the galleries in **Blowing Rock**, **Brevard**, and **Sparta**, North Carolina, immerse visitors in the artistry that



Ralph Stanley Museum on The Crooked Road, Clintwood, Virginia



Old Fiddler's Convention in Galax, Virginia

KRISTINA LEBLANC

has defined the region for generations. The trails also connect travelers with local festivals, studio tours, and craft fairs, where they can purchase unique, handmade souvenirs and works of art. blueridgeheritage.com

BLUE RIDGE MUSIC TRAILS

Music is the soul of the Blue Ridge Mountains, and the Blue Ridge Music Trails in North Carolina celebrate its roots in old-time bluegrass and folk traditions. These trails connect visitors to live performances, festivals, and music venues where the rhythms of the mountains come alive. A highlight is the **Blue Ridge Music Center** near **Galax**, Virginia, which offers concerts, exhibits, and walking trails surrounded by stunning scenery. Towns like **Mount Airy** and **Black Mountain**, North Carolina, host regular music events, ensuring that visitors

can experience the melodies that have echoed through these hills for centuries. blueridgeheritage.com/heritage/music/blue-ridge-music-trails

THE CROOKED ROAD: VIRGINIA'S HERITAGE MUSIC TRAIL

Venturing into Virginia, The Crooked Road offers a deeper dive into Appalachian music along a 330-mile trail winding through southwest Virginia. Key stops include the **Birthplace of Country Music Museum** in **Bristol**, the **Carter Family Fold** in **Hiltons**, and the **Blue Ridge Institute** in **Ferrum**. Festivals, jam sessions, and historic venues connect visitors to the stories behind the music, providing a hands-on way to experience the traditions of Appalachia. Alongside its music, The Crooked Road highlights the natural beauty and hospitality of Virginia's mountain towns. thecrookedroadva.com



Smoky Mountain Bluegrass Festival in Haywood County, North Carolina

BRN/HA

“These trails celebrate the region’s traditions and creativity.”

Rumbling the Ridge

Enjoy a Motorcycle Ride on the Blue Ridge Parkway

Riding the Parkway in Virginia
VIRGINIA TOURISM

The Blue Ridge Parkway, spanning 469 miles from North Carolina to Virginia, is renowned for its breathtaking vistas, vibrant wildflowers, and seasonal transformations. In spring and summer, the roadside blooms with rhododendron and mountain laurel, while autumn paints the hillsides in shades of gold, orange, and red.

Motorcycle riders come from across the country to soak in this amazing mountain scenery. Traveling at a leisurely pace of 35 mph, you can take the time to truly enjoy the stunning landscape—admiring the maples, sourwoods, and birches, or spotting late-blooming flowers like goldenrod and asters. With the weather often shifting from sun to rain to fog, riders can experience the full range of mountain climates in a single day.

The region offers a number of amazing rides, including the **Claw of the Dragon**, which loops through the Blue Ridge Mountains in southwest Virginia;

the **Devil's Stairs**, which offers a smooth ride with fun, technical curves through Ashe County, North Carolina; and the **Cherohola Skyway**, which climbs through the Cherokee and Nantahala national forests in North Carolina and Tennessee. For a more leisurely ride, the **Nelson County 151 Trail** offers views of the Piedmont and Blue Ridge Mountains,

“Traveling at a leisurely pace of 35 mph, you can take the time to truly enjoy the stunning landscape.”

dotted with wineries, orchards, and craft breweries. A North Carolina Scenic Byway, **Newfound Gap Road** at Cherokee is especially popular with motorcyclists when fall colors are ablaze.

RULE THE RIDGE

The Blue Ridge Parkway's narrow and soft shoulders, long sweeping curves, and tight turns make this ride different than other rides and present unique challenges to riders. Remember these important tips for a safe ride: stay focused, ride single file, maintain a safe distance for better reaction times, and use the center lane for better control. For more tips on how to enjoy the Parkway safely, visit nps.gov/blri.



Regional Resources

Publications & Organizations to Enhance Your Visit to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Blue Ridge Country Magazine covering history, attractions, and outdoor recreation. Great photos and travel tips. Visit us online for more information. blueridgecountry.com 800-548-1672

Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine that has been a trusted resource for adventure travel inspiration for 25 years. blueridgeoutdoors.com 434-817-2755

Blue Ridge Parkway Association The Blue Ridge Parkway Association is a nonprofit marketing partner of the Blue Ridge Parkway, providing travel information, itineraries, and resources to help visitors plan unforgettable journeys. www.blueridgeparkway.org 828-670-1924

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation invites everyone to be part of the national park's legacy. With your support, the nonprofit provides funds for historical and cultural preservation, enhanced visitor experiences, natural resource protection, and educational outreach. brpfoundation.org 866-308-2773

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Discover the culture and natural beauty of the Blue Ridge Mountains and Foothills with itineraries and trails from the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area. <https://www.blueridgeheritage.com/> email: info@blueridgeheritage.com.

Conservation Trust for NC CTNC conserves land along the Parkway, protecting scenic views, natural habitat, water quality, and recreational resources in ways that build vibrant communities along its route. ctnc.org/projects/blue-ridge-parkway 919-828-4199

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge A nonprofit, volunteer, and membership organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the Blue Ridge region by coordinate volunteers, projects, and events in their local areas. blueridgefriends.org 540-772-2992

GuideAlong Find your favorite audio tour guides to take with you. Tours for all the best things to see and do using GPS to trigger audio - no signal needed. guidealong.com/tour/blue-ridge-parkway

Our State A magazine celebrating the very best of North Carolina, from the mountains to the coast. Visit us online for more information. ourstate.com 800-948-1409

Shaka Guide Blue Ridge Parkway Audio Tour Guides. Explore the Blue Ridge Parkway with stories and music, plus get directions to must-see stops. shakaguide.com

Smoky Mountain Living A magazine embracing the history, culture, and outdoors of the southern Appalachian Mountains. Releasing six issues per year. Subscribe online. smliv.com 866-452-2251

Carolina Mountain Club www.carolinamountainclub.org

Friends of the Mountain to Sea Trail www.mountainstoseatrail.com

STATE TOURISM PARTNERS

Visit North Carolina | VisitNC North Carolina's official travel-planning destination. Explore things to do, browse maps and places to stay, and discover ideas for your next vacation. visitnc.com

Virginia is for Lovers | Visit Virginia Virginia's official tourism website for travel information and vacation planning. Explore our cities and towns, find fun things to do, and discover unique places to stay. virginia.org

Tennessee Department of Tourism | TN Vacation Start planning the perfect trip. Find and save places to eat, sleep, sip, savor, dance, discover, and explore during your Tennessee travels. tnvacation.com

A Perfect Day in the

Shenandoah National Park Region

The Northern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

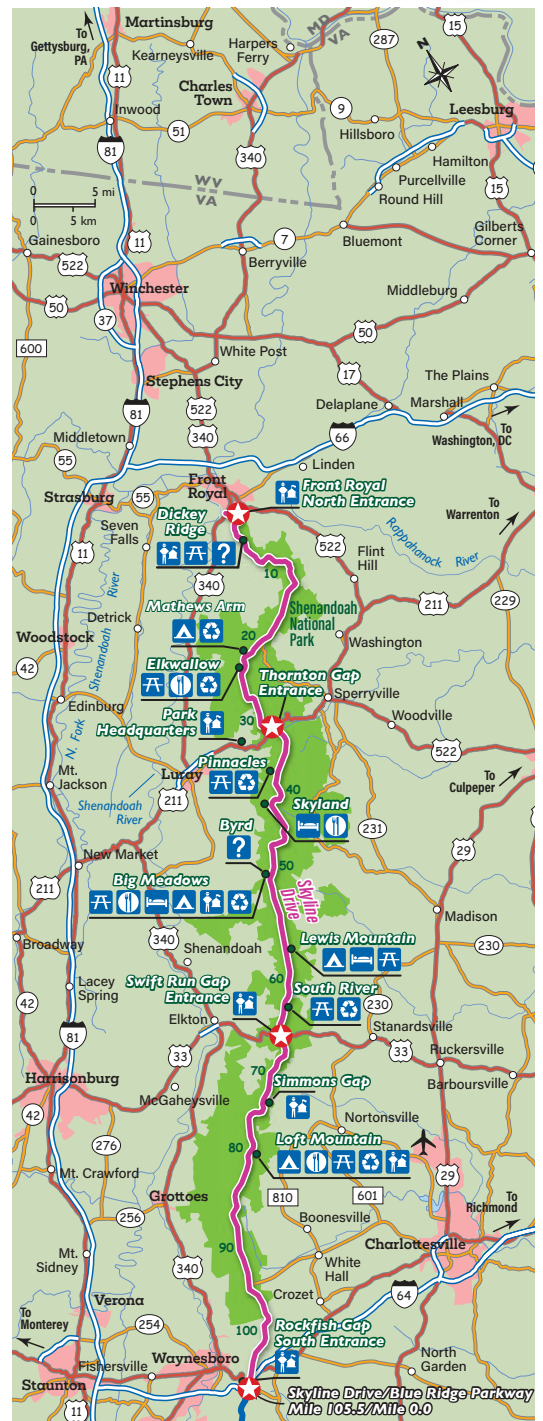
Timber Hollow
SNP NPS



Shenandoah National Park



White Throated Sparrow



MAP KEY	Lodging	Food	Ranger Station
	Picnic Area	Info	Airport
	Camping	Access Point	Recycle

Shenandoah Park Region

Tucked beside Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, the Shenandoah Region offers a perfect mix of outdoor adventure, rich history, and stunning landscapes—ideal for nature lovers and history buffs alike.

Start your journey in the charming town of **Winchester**, where you can savor a leisurely breakfast before visiting the **Museum of the Shenandoah Valley**. Wander through regional history exhibits, explore the **Glen Burnie Historic House**, and stroll the beautiful gardens.

From Winchester head to **Front Royal**, where you can tour **Skyline Caverns**, home to rare crystal anthodite formations. Then continue to Skyline Drive, the northern entrance of **Shenandoah National Park**. Be sure to stop at the **Shenandoah Valley Overlook** for sweeping views of Signal Knob and Massanutten Mountain, or venture to **Beahms Gap Overlook** for access to the **Appalachian Trail**.

Exit Skyline Drive at **Thornton Gap** and head west on US 211 for **Luray Caverns**, the largest cavern in eastern America and known for its Stalacpipe Organ. If you're still itching for more underground adventure, continue your journey to explore the

Shenandoah Caverns nearby, or make a stop at Grand Caverns farther up the road.

Explore **New Market**, where the **Museum of the Civil War** brings history to life. Head back to Luray and the Thornton Gap Entrance for Skyline Drive. Travel south to **Whiteoak Canyon**, renowned for its six breathtaking waterfalls. If time allows, hike **Dark Hollow Falls**, a 70-foot cascade just a short distance away.

Next, make your way to **Big Meadows** in the heart of **Shenandoah National Park**, where you can explore trails, visit the **Byrd Visitor Center**, and learn about the area's natural and cultural history. For panoramic views, take a 1.2-mile hike up **Bearfence Mountain Summit**.

Continue south along Skyline Drive with stops at **South River** and **Rockytop Overlooks** with vistas of the **Piedmont Region** to the east and **Big Run Watershed**. Enjoy a peaceful hike to **Doyles River Falls** or **Jones Run Falls**.

End your adventure at **Calf Mountain Overlook**, where you can savor one last panoramic view before heading to **Charlottesville** for the evening.

Shenandoah National Park

Nestled in the heart of Virginia, **Shenandoah National Park** offers more than 200,000 acres of lush forests, stunning ridgelines, and tranquil valleys along the Blue Ridge Mountains. This natural haven, located just 75 miles from Washington, D.C., provides a peaceful escape with scenic views, abundant wildlife, and historic charm.

The park's 500 miles of trails—including 101 miles of the famous **Appalachian Trail**—welcome hikers of all levels. Trails wind through oak-hickory forests, dip into deep canyons, and rise to high points offering breathtaking panoramas. Along these paths, visitors may encounter white-tailed deer, black bears, and wild turkeys. During spring and summer, trails bloom with wildflowers, while fall transforms the landscape into a stunning tapestry of reds, oranges, and yellows.

Shenandoah's **Skyline Drive**, a 105-mile road along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains, reveals panoramic vistas stretching east to the Piedmont and west to the Shenandoah Valley. This historic roadway is perfect for a leisurely drive, with scenic overlooks that invite travelers to pause and savor the views.

History also runs deep in Shenandoah. In 1926, Congress authorized the park, and by 1936, it was officially dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a refuge for nature and recreation. Evidence of early settlers remains in apple orchards, stone foundations, and family cemeteries that dot the landscape. Skyline Drive and its historic structures are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, reflecting the craftsmanship of the 1920s and 1930s.

Shenandoah invites visitors to experience ranger-led programs, scenic overlooks, and tranquil fishing spots. Whether you're hiking to waterfalls, exploring heritage sites, or simply enjoying the peace of the forest, Shenandoah promises relaxation, inspiration, and a connection to nature and history that will linger long after your visit.

South River Falls in Shenandoah National Park
AMANDA KLAMROWSKI

WINCHESTER & FREDERICK COUNTY, VA

18 miles north of Skyline Drive via US 522, I-81, exits 310, 313, 315, and 317. Historic district, quaint towns, museums, professional theater, cinema, golf, and fine dining. For more info: Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center, 1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd., Winchester, VA 22601. visitwinchesterva.com 877-871-1326

► ATTRACTIONS

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley

Regional history museum complex including Glen Burnie Historic House, seven acres of formal gardens, and the Trails at MSV on 90 acres of green space. themsv.org 888-556-5799

Dinosaur Land Located at 3848 Stonewall Jackson Hwy., intersection of Rts. 522, 340, and 277, eight miles south of Winchester. Discover more than 50 dinosaurs and a gift shop. dinosaurlandva.com 540-869-2222

SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA

Venture off the Parkway and experience our rush hour. Scenic drives, hiking, paddling, history, vineyards, breweries, restaurants, and caverns. There's only one Shenandoah County in the Shenandoah Valley. visitshenandoahcounty.com 540-459-6227

FRONT ROYAL, VA

Located at Milepost 0, Front Royal is the stepping on and off point for a wonderful and spectacular Skyline Drive tour through Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. discoverfrontroyal.com 540-635-5788

► ATTRACTIONS

Skyline Caverns Open year-round. Discover the miniature train, gift shop with snacks, Enchanted Dragon Mirror Maze, rock shop, and unusual anthodite formations. The guided tour is impressive and educational. skylinecaverns.com 800-296-4545

0 Access Point US 340 & Skyline Drive From Front Royal, east 35 miles to Middleburg, 63 miles to Washington D.C.; southeast 18 miles to Washington, VA; north 21 miles to Winchester.

0.6 Front Royal (North) Entrance Station Staffed by National Park Service personnel who, besides collecting entrance fees, can answer your questions and give other assistance.

2.8 Shenandoah Valley Overlook At 1,390 feet you see the northern end of the Shenandoah Valley. To the right is Signal Knob, the northern tip of the Massanutten Mountain, which divides the Shenandoah Valley and forks the Shenandoah River.

4.6 Dickey Ridge Visitor Center Exhibits, movie, publications, water, comfort stations, and picnic grounds. Altitude 1,940.

6.8 Gooney Run Overlook Gives a view across the valley and toward Dickey Ridge on the right.

17.1 Range View Overlook Offers a spectacular view of a large section of the Blue Ridge.

21 Hogback Overlook 11 bends of Shenandoah River visible on clear days. Altitude 3,385.

22.2 Mathews Arm Campground Open late May through Oct. Tent and trailer sites and sewage disposal station. No showers or laundry. Camp store two miles south on Skyline Drive.

24 Elkwallow Picnic grounds and wayside, grills, snack bar, gift shop, camp store, water, and comfort station.

28.4 Beahms Gap Overlook Provides access to the Appalachian Trail and shorter trails.

LURAY-PAGE COUNTY, VA

Designated as the Cabin Capital of Virginia, Page Valley is endeared for its three charming small towns, outdoor recreation, fresh-air relaxation, and four seasons of natural beauty. Here, time moves a little slower—and vacations seem to last a little longer. pagevalley.org 540-743-1216

► ATTRACTIONS

Luray Caverns Eastern America's largest and most popular caverns, this US Natural Landmark features the world's only Stalacpipe Organ. 10 minutes from Skyline Drive and Shenandoah National Park; I-81, 15 minutes. luraycaverns.com 540-743-6551

► LODGING

Big Meadows Lodge In Shenandoah National Park at Mile 51 on Skyline Drive, Big Meadows offers the highest concentration of visitor services in the park. Enjoy rustic cabins or a cozy suite with a fireplace, a restaurant and bar, and a gift shop with handcrafted items. goshenandoah.com/lodging/big-meadows-lodge 877-247-9261

Luray Caverns Motels Located opposite Luray Caverns entrance. A quiet, scenic location with Blue Ridge Mountain views, discount food coupons, free Wi-Fi, pools, and golf packages at Caverns Country Club Resort. luraycaverns.com 540-743-6551

The Mimslyn Inn Experience vintage Southern hospitality at this luxury historic hotel, offering quality and comfort at the restaurant and spa. Call to book events and weddings. mimslyninn.com 540-743-5105

Skyland Located in Shenandoah National Park at Mile 41.7 on Skyline Drive, Skyland is at

the highest elevation along the drive. Skyland is open April through Nov. with horseback riding and special events. goshenandoah.com/lodging/skyland 877-247-9261

► RECREATION

Shenandoah River Outfitters Canoe, kayak, raft, or tube the Shenandoah, or stay in the river cabins. shenandoah-river.com 800-6-CANOE2

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Shenandoah Valley Travel Association Request an official *Shenandoah Valley Travel Guide* online. Mail requests to PO Box 261, Luray, VA 22835. visitshenandoah.org 800-847-4878

31.5 Thornton Gap Entrance Station Altitude 2,304. Thornton Gap is one of the major entrances to Shenandoah Park. Park Headquarters is four miles west on US 221.

32 Mary's Rock Tunnel Built in 1932. Goes through 600 feet of rock with a 12'8" inch clearance.

36.6 Pinnacles Picnic grounds with shelter, tables, fireplaces, water, and comfort station. Altitude 3,350. Access to Appalachian Trail.

38.6 Stony Man Mountain Overlook Straight ahead as you enter the overlook from the north is the profile of a man looking up toward the sky. Across the valley is Massanutten Mountain.

39.1 Little Stony Man Cliffs Can be reached by a round-trip hike of 0.9 mile from the parking area. Access to Appalachian Trail.

41.7 North Entrance to Skyland Highest point on Skyline Drive at 3,680 feet. One of the primary tourist facility stops with lodging, dining, gift shop, horse riding, trails, and evening programs.

42.5 South Entrance to Skyland

42.6 Whiteoak Canyon Has six waterfalls. A 4.6-mile round-trip trail leads to the first waterfall, the park's second highest at 86 feet.

43 Limberlost Trail (Accessible trail with assistance) A 1.3-mile loop. Passes through an old orchard, the remains of a grove of ancient hemlocks, a crushed greenstone walkway, wooden boardwalk and bridge, and many benches.

44.2 Crescent Rock Overlook 25 yards from the Skyline Drive. Provides the best view of Hawksbill Mountain.

KEY: 42.6 - Milepost numbers within the Shenandoah National Park Region correspond to Skyline Drive, not the Blue Ridge Parkway.

45.5 Hawksbill Gap Parking Area Trails lead to Hawksbill Mountain—at 4,051 feet, the highest point in the park.

50.4 Dark Hollow Falls The waterfall closest to Skyline Drive; cascades 70 feet over greenstone. Round trip from the parking area is 1.4 miles.

51 Big Meadows Visitors can view wildlife, stargaze, or wander the many paths that weave throughout this unique ecosystem. Discover Byrd Visitor Center, Big Meadows Wayside and Lodge, Big Meadows Campground, and Big Meadows Picnic Ground.

56.4 Bearfence Mountain Summit Provides a 360-degree view. The round trip from the parking lot is only 1.2 miles but part of it is a rock scramble and can be difficult, especially if wet. Wear sturdy shoes.

57.2 Lewis Mountain Facilities and services include cabins, campground with tent and trailer sites, camp store, picnic ground, and campfire facilities. Altitude 3,390.

62.5 South River Picnic Grounds A fine place to stop for a picnic and then a hike to South River Falls, 2.6 miles round trip.

QUICKSBURG, VA

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Shenandoah Caverns Underground world of wonders and Virginia's only cavern with elevator service! Open year-round. shenandoahcaverns.com 540-477-3115

NEW MARKET, VA

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Virginia Museum of the Civil War Discover an exhibit on the Civil War in Virginia and a Battle of New Market exhibit. Enjoy the museum shop, picnic area, overlooks, and walking trail. vmi.edu/museums-and-archives/virginia-museum-of-the-civil-war 866-515-1864

MADISON, VA

Let us help you plan a visit filled with outdoor activities, wineries, events, restaurants and fine dining, or simple relaxation. Madison County Visitor Center, 110 N. Main St., Madison, VA. madisonva.com 540-948-4455

65.5 Swift Run Gap Entrance Station Access Point US 33. East 12 miles to Standardsville, west seven miles to Elkton, 24 miles to Harrisonburg. South 25 miles to Grottoes. Altitude 2,365.

HARRISONBURG, VA

In the heart of the Shenandoah Valley, near Shenandoah National Park and George Washington National Forest, find exquisite

local cuisine and handcrafted beer. A recognized bronze cycling destination. visitharrisonburgva.com 540-432-8935

▶ LODGING

The Village Inn Take I-81, exit 243 to locate this AAA Three-Diamond stay. The family-owned inn offers a scenic rural setting, free HBO, pool and hot tub, deluxe playground, Wi-Fi, and in-room amenities. thevillageinn.travel 540-434-7355

66.3 Hightop Mountain Parking At an elevation of 2,635 feet, parking is on the west side of Skyline Drive and provides access to the Appalachian Trail and outstanding views on the summit of Hightop Mountain.

66.8 Swift Run Overlook Offers a view of the Piedmont to the east and Flattop to the south.

72.8 Simmons Gap Ranger Station Personnel are responsible for the southern portion of the park. Stop if you need assistance from the rangers.

77.8 Rockytop Overlook Provides a good view of the Big Run watershed.

79.5 Loft Mountain Wayside Loft Mountain Campground (one mile up the access road from Skyline Drive) has tent and trailer sites, sewage disposal station, a restaurant, a camp store, showers, and ranger programs in the summer. The campground closes in late October.

81.1 Doyles River Trail Takes you to the upper falls, 2.6 miles round trip, and lower falls, 3.2 miles round trip.

84.1 Jones Run A good place to park for a rewarding hike of 3.6 miles, round trip, to the 42-foot Jones Run Falls. The reward: mosses and flowering plants growing on the water-sprayed cliff.

CAVERNS & UNDERGROUND WONDERS

Explore remarkable underground wonders near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Virginia is home to **Skyline Caverns**, **Luray Caverns**, **Shenandoah Caverns**, and **Grand Caverns**, while North Carolina features the fascinating **Linville Caverns**. Beyond the Parkway, Tennessee offers **Bristol and Tuckaleechee Caverns**. Marvel at towering stalactites, stalagmites, flowstones, and cathedral-like chambers sculpted by water over millions of years in these unforgettable subterranean landscapes.



SCAN FOR INFO

84.8 Blackrock Summit Parking The start of a one-mile round-trip hike to Blackrock and outstanding views.

93.8 Turk Gap Parking Area East of Skyline Drive near a crossing of the Appalachian Trail.

98.5 Calf Mountain Overlook Provides a spectacular 360-degree view.

MASSANUTTEN, VA

▶ LODGING

Highlight Homes Upscale four- to six-bedroom vacation rental homes with hot tubs, and one with a heated indoor pool in Massanutten. Military discounts available. highlighthomesva.com

Massanutten Resort Located at 1822 Resort Dr., 15 miles from the Parkway. Enjoy the indoor waterpark, skiing, day spa, golf, hiking, shopping, and dining. massresort.com 540-289-9441

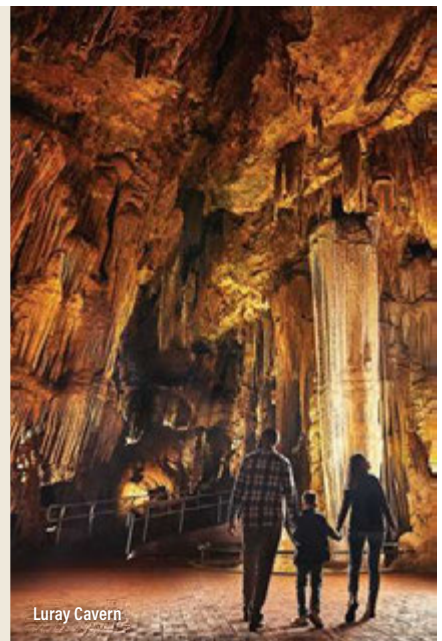
GROTTOES, VA

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Grand Caverns Experience nature's handiwork at America's oldest continuously operated show cave. Voted second best cave in the US by *Parade* magazine and open daily. grandcaverns.com 888-430-CAVE

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

We can't wait to welcome you to Charlottesville and Albemarle County! We operate two mobile visitor centers that can be found at some of our most popular attractions in the city and county. Visit our website to discover places to stay, things to do, and our mobile visitor center schedule. visitcharlottesville.org 434-293-6789



Luray Cavern

► **ATTRACTIONS**

Monticello, Home of Thomas Jefferson

Experience special behind-the-scenes gardens and grounds tours. Unwind at the café and the Shop at Monticello. monticello.org
434-984-9822

► **LODGING**

Fairfield Inn & Suites Charlottesville North

Located at 577 Branchlands Blvd., 24 miles from Milepost 0 on US 29. Free breakfast and parking, RVs welcome, pet-friendly. marriott.com/en-us/hotels/chof-fairfield-inn-and-suites-charlottesville-north/overview 434-964-9411

104.9 Rockfish Gap Entrance Station

Staffed by the Park Service, who can answer questions and provide assistance.

105.4 Rockfish Gap Access Point Skyline Drive

Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, US 250 access point. West four miles to Waynesboro, 15 miles to Staunton, and 60 miles to Monterey. East 20 miles to Charlottesville. Altitude 1,909.

.....
CROZET, VA

► **LODGING**

Montfair Resort Farm 18 miles from the Parkway, offering eco-friendly vacation cabins by Mountain Lake. Cabins have Wi-Fi, kitchens, and pets are welcome. Hiking, fishing, canoes, and bikes are included. montfairresortfarm.com
434-823-5202



Peaches at Gross Orchard



U-pick at The Orchard at Altapass



Apples at Mountain Fresh Orchard

HISTORIC ORCHARDS & FARMS

Virginia's and North Carolina's rolling hills are home to generations-old orchards and farms, preserving a rich agricultural heritage. Family-run apple orchards offer fresh cider, pick-your-own experiences, and seasonal festivals. Historic farms, some dating back to the 18th century, showcase traditional Appalachian agriculture with heirloom crops and heritage livestock. Many also offer farm-to-table dining and agritourism experiences, giving visitors a taste of the region's past. Whether you're exploring a roadside farm stand or an orchard in full bloom, Virginia and North Carolina farms connect visitors to the land and provide a taste of the region's history and flavors.

Charlottesville & Albemarle County, Virginia

Only minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway, Award-winning local wine, world-class cuisine, an abundance of history, and the beautiful great outdoors await you in Charlottesville and Albemarle County. Find your new favorite wine, explore historical sites, get and top it all off with a delicious meal at everything from food trucks to white-tablecloth restaurants.

Plan your trip today at <http://visitcharlottesville.org>

434-293-6789
visitcharlottesville.org

Charlottesville Albemarle CVB
3510 Remson Ct., Ste. 102
Charlottesville, VA 22901

@charlottesvilleva

@charlottesvillevirginia





A Perfect Day in the Blue Ridge Parkway

Ridge Region

Rockfish Gap to Roanoke, Virginia

Raven's Roost Overlook
VIRGINIA TOURISM



Sharp Top Mountain

Ridge Region

The Ridge Region of the Blue Ridge Parkway offers a captivating blend of rugged landscapes, diverse wildlife, and breathtaking vistas. Stretching through Virginia, this section invites adventurers to explore dense forests, dramatic ridges, and serene valleys. Whether you hike to panoramic viewpoints or simply enjoy the scenic drive, the Ridge Region is a perfect escape into nature's splendor.

Start at **Waynesboro** in the Shenandoah Valley. Grab coffee at a local café and take in mountain views. Here, access the **Appalachian Trail**, a 2,190-mile public footpath through the Appalachian Mountains.

A short drive up the Parkway brings you to the **Humpback Rocks Visitor Center**, where you can learn about Appalachian pioneer life. After touring the museum, hike the two-mile round-trip trail to the top of Humpback Rocks for panoramic Blue Ridge views.

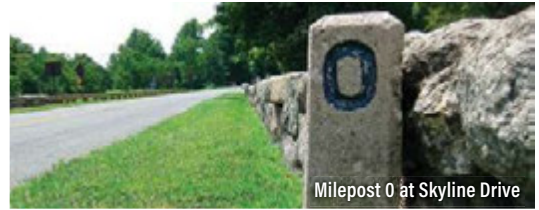
Continue your drive through **Buena Vista**, nestled in the heart of the Rockbridge area, which features 65,000 acres of public forests, parks, and rivers. Veer off the Parkway to discover **Lexington**, a historic town with a host of outdoor recreation opportunities,

or make a stop in **Staunton**, a quaint town known for its rich history and magnificent architecture.

Next, explore **Yankee Horse Ridge**, where a reconstructed logging railroad and waterfall await. Alternatively, head to **Crabtree Falls**, the tallest waterfall east of the Mississippi. A three-mile hike leads to the base, where you can witness the falls' powerful flow. The **Thunder Ridge Overlook** provides a quiet perch towering over the Arnold Valley some 2,600 feet below.

Drive into **Bedford** to experience the **National D-Day Memorial**. Visit **Natural Bridge State Park** to see one of Virginia's most iconic natural wonders, then enjoy a relaxing stroll around **Otter Lake**. **Peaks of Otter** is a must-see stop, offering scenic views, hiking trails, and dining options. For a challenge, hike **Sharp Top Mountain** to one of the best viewpoints on the Parkway, or opt to take the shuttle to the top. Add some adventure and head northwest to the historic **Buchanan Swinging Bridge** that crosses over the James River.

Finish your day at **Roanoke Valley Overlook**, where the view provides a picture-perfect end to your adventure in the Ridge Region.



MAP KEY			
	Lodging		Fuel
	Food		Camping
	Picnic Area		Info
	Access Point		Ranger Station
	Airport		

0 Rockfish Gap Access Point Rockfish Gap access is the end of Skyline Drive and the beginning of the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 0. Altitude 1,909. Afton, VA, exit US 250, Milepost 0.

WAYNESBORO, VA

Four miles west of the Parkway via US 250 or I-64. Shops, restaurants, gas, and outdoor recreation. Information center located at exit 99 off of I-64. visitwaynesboro.com 540-943-5187

▶ LODGING

Days Inn by Wyndham Waynesboro

Exit 94 off I-64. Five miles from the Parkway, our oversized guestrooms boast panoramic mountain views. Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast and an outdoor pool. wyndhamhotels.com/days-inn/waynesboro-virginia/days-inn-waynesboro-va/overview 540-943-1101

STAUNTON, VA

Staunton's historic downtown delights visitors with its vibrant arts scene and great restaurants. The amazing architecture and compact downtown make for great walking

KEY: **129.6** - Parkway milepost numbers

and exploring opportunities. visitstaunton.com 540-332-3865

▶ LODGING

The Blackburn Inn Located at Milepost 0, this Virginia boutique hotel has an artful design, 49 rooms, historic roots with modern architecture, and a 40-seat intimate indoor bistro and bar. blackburn-inn.com 540-712-0601

Walnut Hills Campground The RV park and campground are 15 miles from Parkway Milepost 0. Rent a cabin with clean bathrooms, an on-site dog park, and a pool. walnuthillscampground.com 540-337-3920

NELSON COUNTY, VA

From Milepost 0 to the mighty James River, explore 471 square miles of wineries, breweries, cideries, distilleries, farms and orchards, unique lodging, restaurants, and shopping. Enjoy scenic hikes, waterfalls, the Appalachian Trail, and historic sites. Nelson County Tourism, Lovingston, VA. nelsoncounty.com 800-282-8223

5.8-9.3 Humpback Rocks Visitor Center and Park Store. Mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), picnic area, and comfort station (Milepost 8.8). 800 acres.

8.8 Greenstone Parking Overlook Self-guided nature trail.

13.7 Reids Gap Access Point VA Rt. 664.

16 VA 814 to Sherando Lake Access Point 4.5 miles. In George Washington National Forest. Swimming, picnicking, and camping.

27.2 Tye River Gap Access Point Rt. 56, west to Vesuvius and Steeles Tavern. East to Montebello. Altitude 2,969.

34.4 Yankee Horse Parking Area Logging railroad exhibit.

45.6 US 60 Access Point East to Amherst; west to Buena Vista and Lexington.

NELLYSFORD, VA

▶ LODGING

Wintergreen Resort Offering lodging, dining, 45 holes of golf, tennis, pools, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, ice-skating, a spa, hiking, and fishing. wintergreenresort.com 434-325-2200

LOVE, VA

▶ LODGING

Love Ridge Mountain Lodging Exit Milepost 16 for mountain cabins and homes for up to 10 people bordering the Parkway. We also host events and weddings. loveridgeva.com 540-943-7625

MONTEBELLO, VA

▶ LODGING

Montebello Resort Near Milepost 27, exit for a full-service campground with shaded sites for RVs, campers, tents (April-Oct.), and cabin rentals available year-round. Fish in fee-based trout ponds, no license required. Stop at the country store for fuel, groceries, and many gift items. Open year-round. montebellova.com 540-377-2650

LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA & ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VA

Natural wonders, great American heroes, and charming towns. Featuring the homes and final resting places of "Stonewall" Jackson and Robert E. Lee, breathtaking Blue Ridge Mountain scenery, and a charming downtown that offers abundant eateries, locally owned shops, and cozy B&Bs. lexingtonvirginia.com 540-463-3777

▶ LODGING

Fox Hill Bed & Breakfast Suites

Stretching 38 acres and pet-friendly. We are located between Mileposts 27 and 45.6. Enjoy king-sized beds, a three-course breakfast, and Wi-Fi. foxhillbb.com 540-377-9922



LOVEwork sign in Bedford, Virginia

VIRGINIA SHARES THE LOVE

Travelers along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia will find more than breathtaking mountain views—they'll also discover Virginia's famous LOVEwork signs. These creative installations, part of the "Virginia is for Lovers" campaign, celebrate the state's beauty, culture, and hospitality. From charming small towns to scenic overlooks, each LOVEwork is uniquely designed to reflect its location. Snap a photo with one in **Wytheville, Hillsville, or Independence, VA**, and share your own love for Virginia's Blue Ridge. Whether exploring wineries, hiking trails, or historic sites, these signs remind visitors that adventure and warm welcomes await at every turn. virginia.org/love

Glen Maury Park & Campground

Located on 10th Street, five miles from the Parkway. Explore 315 acres with 52 sites or 250 units, group camping, clean modern facilities, and LP gas. buenavistava.org/residents/recreation/glen-maury-park 800-555-8845

Inn at Brierley Hill Located at 985 Borden Rd., near Milepost 45.6. Relax in large rooms and suites or a pet-friendly cottage, with country breakfast and beautiful views. Voted one of the top 10 Romantic Inns in the US. brierleyhill.com 540-464-8421

Sugar Tree Inn Three-quarters of a mile west of Milepost 27 is a haven of natural beauty. At 2,800 feet, the inn is a place of peace, tranquility, and rustic elegance. Enjoy 40-mile views, wood-burning fireplaces, and a country breakfast. sugartreeinn.com 540-377-2197

The Georges Located at 11 N. Main St., 12 miles from US 60 exit. Offering deluxe rooms and suites, two restaurants, and free on-site parking. thegeorges.com 540-463-2500

▶ RECREATION

12 Ridges Tasting Room and Vineyard Offering wine tasting, events, and weddings. We are located at Milepost 25, at the top of the Blue Ridge Mountains, with views of the Shenandoah Valley. 12ridges.com 434-996-4252

60.8 Otter Creek Campground, trails, and scenic roadside cascade.

61.4 Rt. 130 Access Point East 20 miles to Lynchburg. West nine miles to Glasgow and 15 miles to Natural Bridge.

63.6 James River Visitor Center & Park Store Exhibits.

63.9 US 501 Access Point West 15 miles to Natural Bridge. East 22 miles to Lynchburg. Altitude 670.

NATURAL BRIDGE, VA**▶ ATTRACTIONS**

Natural Bridge Zoo See the largest collection of birds and animals in the state of Virginia. Ride an elephant, stand next to a giraffe, see a white tiger, hug baby llamas and donkeys, and enjoy monkeys, gibbons, and more. naturalbridgezoo.com 540-291-2420

Virginia Safari Park Discover Virginia's only 180-acre drive-through zoo! Along the three miles of road, animals of all kinds approach your vehicle in search of a tasty bucket of feed. See camels, bison, zebras, elk, giraffes, and many other animals. virginiasafaripark.com 540-291-3205

▶ LODGING

Natural Bridge Historic Hotel & Conference Center Located between Mileposts 61.4 and 63.7. See spectacular mountain views, dine at the tavern, or explore the state park and caverns. naturalbridgeva.com 540-291-2121

Natural Bridge/Lexington KOA Campground Take Rt. 130 West to the Natural Bridge and Rt. 11 North 4.5 miles to the RV-tent-deluxe cabins. Open year-round. koa.com/campgrounds/natural-bridge 800-562-8514

MONROE, VA**▶ LODGING**

Lynchburg/Blue Ridge Parkway KOA 6252 Elon Rd., Monroe, VA. Milepost 61.5 on Rt. 130 East, one mile from the Parkway. RV, tent, cabins. Big rigs welcome. koa.com/campgrounds/lynchburg 800-562-8717

LYNCHBURG, VA

Take a detour at Milepost 63.7 and experience celebrated historic places, diverse local cuisine, and unique shops. Lynchburg is the perfect place to stay while exploring Central Virginia. lynchburgvirginia.org 434-485-7290

VIRGINIA TOURISM



Staunton, Virginia

THE JOURNEY BEYOND THE SCENIC DRIVE

The Blue Ridge Parkway is more than a scenic road, it is the gateway to welcoming mountain communities filled with places to explore, relax, and reconnect. Beyond the overlooks and trails, visitors will discover charming downtowns, local restaurants, cozy lodging, artisan shops, live music, outdoor adventures, and unforgettable mountain hospitality.

Planning a weekend escape or a weeklong road trip? The communities surrounding the Parkway invite you to slow down and experience the culture, flavors, and traditions of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Hike to waterfalls, browse galleries, enjoy local cuisine, or relax under the stars.

Every Parkway journey is different, wander beyond the scenic drive and discover the hidden experiences that make the Blue Ridge region unforgettable.


Plan your adventure at: BlueRidgeParkway.org

**Nelson County, Virginia**

Nelson County has something for everyone. Explore 471 miles of wineries, breweries, cideries, and distilleries, farms and orchards, unique lodging restaurants, and shopping. Enjoy scenic hikes, waterfalls, the Appalachian Trail, and plenty of historic sites.

434-263-7015
nelsoncounty.com

Nelson County Visitor Center
8519 Thomas Nelson Hwy,
Livingston, VA 22949

 [@visitnelsoncounty](https://www.instagram.com/visitnelsoncounty)

► ATTRACTIONS

Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest Discover Thomas Jefferson's personal retreat and step into his private world. Through guided house tours, visitors can rediscover Thomas Jefferson. poplarforest.org 434-534-8120

74.7 Thunder Ridge Parking Area 10-minute loop trail to superb view of Arnold's Valley. Altitude 3,485.

76.5 High Point on the Parkway in Virginia Apple Orchard Mountain. Elevation 4,229. Altitude 3,950.

83.4 Fallingwater Cascades National Scenic Trail Hike as two sections or as one continuous loop. Fallingwater Cascades section is a moderate 1.5-mile loop. Flat Top section is more strenuous, 2.5 miles to the summit and 4.4 miles to Peaks Picnic Area on VA 43.

BEDFORD, VA

Exit via VA 43 at Peaks of Otter and experience Bedford's orchards, potteries, country inns, arts, and shops. The Welcome Center is located at 816 Burks Hill Rd., Bedford, VA 24523 (US 460 and US 122, near the D-Day Memorial). destinationbedfordva.com 877-447-3257

► ATTRACTIONS

National D-Day Memorial Discover the nation's monument to D-Day. Admission includes a guided tour. dday.org 540-587-3619

Peaks of Otter Winery Open seasonally or by appointment, we offer free tours, tastings, and animal visits at our farm vacation rental house. peaksofotterwinery.com 540-586-3707

► FOOD

Olde Liberty Station Restaurant Your ticket for casual dining, only 12 miles from Milepost 86. Enjoy first-class dining in a beautifully restored location with great prices. oldelibrarystation.com 540-587-9377

► LODGING

Bedford Virginia Lodging Exit at Milepost 86 and stay in one of several bed & breakfasts, cabins, cottages, or vacation rentals. bedfordvalodging.com

Cedar Post Inn Bed & Breakfast

Eight miles off the Parkway from Milepost 63.7. Offering two rooms with a private bathroom, breakfast, Wi-Fi, fishing, hiking, relaxation, and more. cedarpostinn.com 434-299-6327

Peaks of Otter Lodge Exit Milepost 86 from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily from April through Nov. Ride a shuttle to Sharp Top Mountain, dine, relax, and more. peaksofotter.com 540-586-1081

Vanquility Acres Inn & Peakview Cottage

Admire beautiful views of Peaks of Otter, mountains, and a lake from your suite or cottage with a private bathroom, kitchen, cable TV, Wi-Fi, and a pool. vanquilityacresinn.com 540-587-9113



BEST-KEPT SECRET

The Blue Ridge Mountains get their signature blue hue from a little secret the trees are keeping. Towering pines and lush greenery release natural oils into the air, which mix with sunlight in a magical way. These oils scatter the sunlight, sending more of the blue light bouncing around than any other color. So, when you look at the mountains, it's like they're wearing a blue mist, created by the very trees that call these peaks home. It's nature's way of giving the Blue Ridge a little flair. Stop at Blue Ridge Parkway overlooks to enjoy the view!

Lexington, Buena Vista & Rockbridge County, Virginia


The Southern gateway to the Shenandoah Valley, Lexington is a walkable college town with more than 65 independently owned shops and eateries, plus historic carriage and ghost tours. Visit historic sites and get your VA250 Passport stamped at Rockbridge Historical Society.


Explore 65,000 acres of public forests, parks, and rivers beckoning outdoor enthusiasts of all ages and skill levels. Visit the awe-inspiring Natural Bridge State Park and International Dark Sky Park or paddle along the Upper James River Water Trail. Dance at a music festival at Glen Maury Park, enjoy craft brews along the Shenandoah Beerwerks Trail, or catch a movie at Hull's Drive-in. Explore our small towns and big backyard!

540-463-3777
lexingtonvirginia.com

Buena Vista Visitor Center
245 West 21st St.
Buena Vista, VA 24416

Lexington Visitor Center
106 E. Washington St.
Lexington, VA 24450

 @visitlexingtonva

 @lexingtonva

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS



► RECREATION

Gross Orchard This vacation home rental is open year-round. Savor U-pick or U-select mountain-grown fruit and produce. Stop by the Apple Festival on the third Sat. in Oct. grossorchard.com 540-586-2436

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Bedford Welcome Center Located at 816 Burks Hill Rd., US 460 and Rt. 122, near the D-Day Memorial. 540-587-5681

85.9 Peaks of Otter Area

Visitor Center & Park Store 5,000 acres. Three Peaks: Sharp Top, Flat Top, and Harkening Hill. Self-guided trail, historic farm, picnic area, campground, and restrooms.

85.9 VA 43 Access Point East to Bedford 10 miles and Smith Mountain Lake via VA 43 and VA 122.

91 Bearwallow Gap Access Point

VA 43, four miles west to Buchanan. Altitude 2,258.

BUCHANAN, VA

Four miles from Parkway Milepost 90.9. Downtown historic district with structures dating from 1750 to 1950. Shops filled with antiques, art, furniture, and collectibles. Walk our Swinging Bridge or paddle the James River. townofbuchanan.com 540-254-1212



A DIFFERENT KIND OF JOURNEY

Traveling the Blue Ridge Parkway is different from traveling an interstate. Designed for slow, scenic travel, the Parkway features winding mountain roads, lower speed limits, overlooks, trails, visitor centers, and countless places worth stopping along the way. A drive that appears short on a map can easily become a day-long experience.

Visitors are encouraged to plan carefully and allow flexibility in their schedules. For example, traveling from the North Carolina mountains to Roanoke may involve several hours of driving alone—not including scenic stops, meals, or hikes. Weather and seasonal traffic may also impact travel times.

To help make planning easier, explore the itinerary builder and suggested itineraries available through BlueRidgeParkway.org. These tools can help visitors map travel times, discover nearby communities and attractions, and build a memorable Parkway experience.

Bedford Virginia

Bedford makes the perfect Blue Ridge Parkway stop! Discover the iconic Peaks of Otter, honor heroes at the National D-Day Memorial, and walk in Thomas Jefferson's footsteps at Poplar Forest. Play a round of world-class disc golf or sip your way along the Bottled in Bedford Craft Beverage Trail. Stroll historic downtown for unique shops, art, local dining, and small-town charm. Explore the outdoor beauty of Smith Mountain Lake. Stay in the mountains, at the lake, or somewhere in between. Start at the Bedford Area Welcome Center and plan your getaway by calling or visiting our website today.

540-587-5681
destinationbedfordva.com

Bedford Area Welcome Center
816 Burks Hill Road
Bedford, VA 24523



@destinationbedfordva

@destinationbedfordva





A Perfect Day in the Blue Ridge Parkway

Plateau Region

Roanoke, Virginia to

Virginia/North Carolina Border

Blue Ridge Parkway in Roanoke, VA

LISA GREGORY



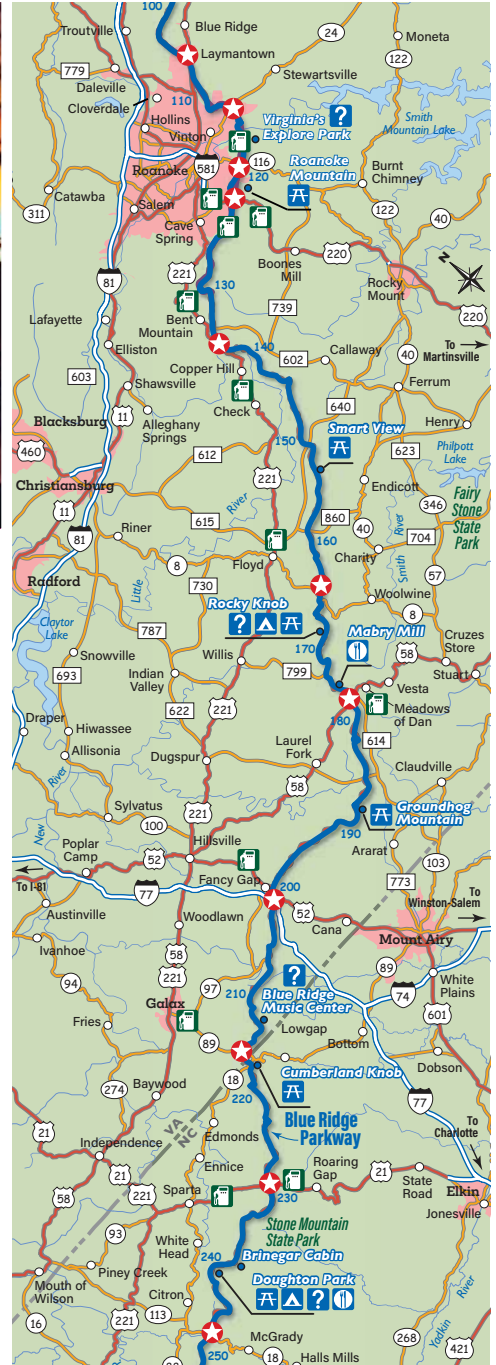
Blue Ridge Music Center, Galax



Roanoke Star



Bristol, TN/VA



MAP KEY					
	Camping		Fuel		Food
	Picnic Area		Info		Access Point

Plateau Region

A day spent exploring the Plateau Region of the Blue Ridge Parkway offers the perfect mix of outdoor adventure, local history, and stunning views. This section of the Parkway, with its rolling hills, rural farmland, and panoramic vistas, showcases the natural beauty and rich culture of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Here's how to make the most of your time in this scenic region.

Begin your day in **Roanoke, Virginia**, a vibrant gateway city to the region. Start with a visit to the **Roanoke Star & Overlook** for breathtaking views of the city nestled among the mountains and the surrounding farmland.

Drive a short distance to **Explore Park**, a scenic spot along the Roanoke River where you can enjoy a leisurely stroll or explore the park's hiking and biking trails. Continue south to **Smart View**, where a 2.6-mile loop trail leads through woodlands and past historic cabins, making it an ideal spot for a relaxing break.

For lunch, head to the artsy town of **Floyd**, known for its vibrant music scene, local wineries, and unique character.

Continue south to **Rocky Knob Recreation Area**, where you can take a scenic hike along the **Rock Castle Gorge Trail** or enjoy a picnic. Stop in the nearby town of **Meadows of Dan**, known for its small shops and beautiful natural surroundings. Just a short drive away is **Mabry Mill**, one of the most photographed spots on the Parkway, where you can watch live demonstrations of historic milling and blacksmithing.

Down the road, stop at the **Blue Ridge Music Center** to celebrate the musical heritage of the region through exhibits on Appalachian music and live performances. Stop in **Galax** nearby, famous for traditional music and the Old Fiddler's Convention, occurring every August.

Head off-road in the Plateau region to experience history, music, festivals, dining, and small-town hospitality. Explore **Mount Airy** or **Pilot Mountain**; enjoy **Bristol** year-round or stroll through **Hillsville** or **Independence, Virginia**, for the local farmers market.

VINTON, VA

The Parkway: a part of the community. Convenient full-service shopping, restaurants, festivals and events, a farmers market, and a history museum. vintonva.gov 540-983-0613

ROANOKE, VA

Explore the Roanoke Valley's scenic towns and counties—together known as Virginia's Blue Ridge. Enjoy more than 1,000 square miles of trails for hiking, biking, and paddling in America's East Coast Mountain Biking Capital. Your metro mountain adventure awaits. visitvbr.com 540-342-6025

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Roanoke County's Explore Park Adventure begins at the Explore Park Visitor Center at Milepost 115. Explore the museum and artisan gift shop. Discover hiking, biking, horseback riding, paddle sports, and more. roanokecountyparks.com/231/Explore-Park 540-427-1800

KEY: 129.6 - Parkway milepost numbers



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT

Located near Hardy, Virginia in Franklin County, **Booker T. Washington National Monument** preserves portions of the 207-acre tobacco farm where educator and leader Booker T. Washington was born into slavery in April 1856. Explore the visitor center to find exhibits and an audio-visual presentation highlighting Washington's life and legacy. Stroll the historic grounds, browse the gift shop featuring African American history items, and learn more from park staff and volunteers who help bring this important story to life.

12130 Booker T. Washington Hwy., Hardy, VA
540-721-2094 • nps.gov/bowa

▶ DINING

Roanoke Co+op Virginia's largest food co-op. Shop deli and groceries at two locations: 1319 Grandin Rd. SW, downtown and convenient, or 1 Market Sq. SE. roanoke.coop 540-343-5652

▶ LODGING

Campgrounds at Explore Park Home to a variety of overnight accommodations with direct access to the Parkway at Milepost 115 and only minutes from the cultural amenities of downtown Roanoke. Choose from primitive camping, group sites, tents, yurts, pod cabins, and RV sites. roanokecountyparks.com/231/Explore-Park 540-427-1800

Fairfield Inn & Suites Roanoke Hollins/I-81 Located at 7944 Plantation Rd., 10 miles from Milepost 106. Enjoy mountain views, an outdoor pool, and a free breakfast. Pet-friendly. marriott.com/en-us/hotels/roano-fairfield-inn-and-suites-roanoke-hollins-i-81/overview 540-362-4200

Hampton Inn and Suites Roanoke-Downtown 27 Church Ave. SE. 3.5 miles from Milepost 121. Spacious rooms with amazing views, walking distance to restaurants. hilton.com/en/hotels/roardhx-hampton-suites-roanoke-downtown 540-400-6000

Hilton Garden Inn Roanoke Located at 4500 S. Peak Blvd., two miles from Milepost 121.4. Enjoy mountain views, an indoor pool, a restaurant, and a bar. hilton.com/en/hotels/roagigi-hilton-garden-inn-roanoke 540-776-3400

Holiday Inn Tanglewood-Roanoke Located at 4468 Starkey Rd., two miles from Milepost 121. Complete with the best views in the valley. Amenities include a microwave, fridge, restaurant, and lounge. ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/roanoke/roatw/hoteldetail 540-774-4400

Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center Curio by Hilton Four-Diamond historic hotel and resort in Roanoke. Enjoy the Regency Room dining, pool, spa, and pub. hotelroanoke.com 540-985-5900

King George Inn Located off Milepost 120, four miles from the Parkway. Left on Franklin Road, right on King George Avenue. Restored mansion in historic district only a short walk to restaurants. kinggeorgeinnbandb.com 757-675-4034

The Liberty Trust Located at 101 S. Jefferson St., off Milepost 120. Boutique, historic hotel in downtown Roanoke. libertytrusthotel.com 540-299-5100

Roanoke Boutique Hotel Ride your bike to our famous Roanoke Star or enjoy the outdoors! roanokeboutiquehotel.com 540-420-4455

Shirley's Bed & Breakfast Located at Milepost 115 at Explore Park, enjoy easy Parkway access, luxurious rooms, five suites, exceptional breakfast, a pool, and wine. shirleysbandb.com 540-589-5600

Springhill Suites Roanoke Located at 301 Reserve Ave. SW, five miles from Milepost 122. Offering oversized suites with superior amenities, on-site restaurant and bar, and complimentary hot buffet breakfast. marriott.com/roash 540-400-6226

121.4 Access Point Parkway & US 220

Five miles north to Roanoke. Five miles south to Boones Mill. 21 miles to Rocky Mount, 45 miles to Martinsville. Smith Mountain Lake by way of US 220 to Rocky Mount and VA 40.

SALEM, VA

Salem is Virginia's "Championship City." Visit historic downtown Salem, only 30 minutes from the Parkway. visitsalemva.com 540-375-4044

SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA

500 miles of glistening shoreline. Year-round appeal. History and wine anytime. Fish, boat, golf, dine, shop, and stay. Free visitor's guide. visitsmithmountainlake.com 540-721-1203

105.8 Access Point Parkway & US 460

Nine miles southwest to Roanoke, VA. 21 miles northeast to Bedford, Lynchburg, and Appomattox, VA.

112.2 Access Point Parkway & VA 24 Five miles south to Roanoke. Nearest access to Smith Mountain Lake via VA 24 and 122.

114.9 Roanoke River Overlook Trail.

115 Visitor Center at Explore Park Gift shop featuring local artisan crafts and Parkway memorabilia, public restrooms, and a media center.

120.4 Mill Mountain Discovery Center An environmental education and information center providing nature programs and hands-on exhibits. Open five days a week year-round. 540-853-1236.

120.4 Roanoke Mountain Day-use area and trails.

FRANKLIN COUNTY, VA

Franklin County is a distinct outdoor destination along the Blue Ridge Parkway. The landscape is woven with miles of roads, trails, and waters perfect for any adventure. Bike along nearly 50 miles of local scenic byways or paddle on one of five blue ways. visitfranklincountyva.com 540-483-3030

▶ LODGING

Bent Mountain Lodge Located off Milepost 139, 20 minutes to Floyd and Roanoke. 10 non-smoking suites complete with private bathrooms, continental breakfast, 15,000-square-foot lodge available for weddings. bentmountainlodgebedandbreakfast.com 540-651-2500

129.6 Roanoke Valley Parkway Overlook Fine view of Roanoke.

144 Devils Backbone Parking Overlook Fine view.

144.8 Pine Spur Parking Overlook Named for the pine which is the tree depicted on Parkway emblem. Altitude 2,703.

154.5 Smart View 500 acres, hiking trails, large picnic grounds, comfort stations, and drinking water. The cabin home of W.J. Trail is picturesque.

FERRUM, VA

► ATTRACTIONS

Blue Ridge Farm Museum Located off Rt. 40, this farm complex was created by Ferrum College to document, interpret, and present the heritage of farm life in the Blue Ridge region. Open seasonally. blueridgeinstitute.org/visit/blue-ridge-farm-museum 540-365-4416

Blue Ridge Institute Located off Rt. 40. State Center for Blue Ridge Folklore. Changing exhibits on folk life and folk art. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Open year-round. blueridgeinstitute.org 540-365-4416

MARTINSVILLE, VA

40 miles east of the Parkway at Milepost 1777 on US 58. Martinsville–Henry County Visitor Center, 191 Fayette St. History, art, recreation, and more. Fun in record time! visitmartinsville.com 888-722-3498

188.8 Groundhog Mountain Parking

Overlook High point affording 360-degree view. Observation tower. Examples of various types of old chestnut rail fences. Picnic area and comfort station. Altitude 3,030.

189.9 Puckett Cabin Home of Orleana Hawks Puckett, storied local midwife. Altitude 2,850.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VA

Enter Montgomery County, 21 miles from Milepost 165.2, via Rt. 8 North. @GotoMontVA gotomontva.com 540-394-4470

► ATTRACTIONS

Historic Smithfield Located at 1000 Smithfield Plantation Rd., 36 miles from the Parkway. Original historic house and museum. historicsmithfield.org 540-231-3947

RADFORD, VA

Radford Visitor's Center, Rt. 8 to I-81, exit 109. Find Mary Draper Ingles statue, outdoor play, and other sites. Easy access to the New River for tubing, fishing, and kayaking. Glencoe Mansion, Museum & Gallery; Radford University planetarium; and more. visitradford.com 540-267-3153

165.3 Tuggle Gap, Access Point VA 8, east six miles to Woolwine, VA; 16 miles to Fairy Stone State Park. Swimming, boating, and picnicking. North six miles to Floyd, 20 miles to Christiansburg.

PULASKI COUNTY, VA

Pulaski County Visitor & Tourism Center offers Information on Pulaski County and New River Valley. visitpulaskiva.org 540-674-4161

FLOYD, VA

At Milepost 165, take Rt. 8 six miles to vibrant downtown Floyd. Enjoy a unique blend of new and heritage music, arts, shops, restaurants, and spirits. Enjoy hiking and biking along 40 miles of the Parkway. Historic rock churches and heritage sites. visitfloydva.com 540-745-4407

► ATTRACTIONS

Floyd Center for the Arts Located at 220 Parkway Ln. From Milepost 165, head north on Rt. 8 for 5.5 miles. Galleries, studios, gift shop, classes, and more. floydartcenter.org 866-787-8806

Floyd Farm Trail 203 S. Locust St. Off Milepost 165. Enhance your visit with a sprinkle of agritourism! Our farms host tours, workshops, tastings, Airbnbs, U-picks, and more. Visit the website for more information. floydfarmtrail.org

► FOOD

Dogtown Roadhouse Located at 302 S. Locust St. Enjoy wood-fired pizza, bands, and brews. Live music on Fri. and Sat. Only six miles from the Parkway. dogtownroadhouse.com 540-745-6836

Red Rooster Coffee Located at 823 E. Main St. Enjoy award-winning coffee roasted daily. Only six miles from Milepost 165. redroostercoffee.com 540-745-5638



Surry Sonker Trail
MOUNT AIRY TOURISM

EXPLORE THE PLATEAU REGION THROUGH ITS TOURS

The Plateau Region offers unique ways to experience the communities surrounding the Blue Ridge Parkway. In **Mount Airy, North Carolina**, visitors can enjoy nostalgic squad car and trolley tours inspired by The Andy Griffith Show. Nearby wine tours through the **Yadkin Valley** showcase local vineyards, while ghost tours share legends from historic downtown streets. Travelers can also follow the **Surry County Sonker Trail** to sample the region's famous deep-dish dessert. Start planning your adventure today at blueridgeparkway.org.




Patrick County, Virginia

Discover miles of scenic roads, challenging hiking trails, and toe-tapping live music. From five-star luxury to primitive camping, there are plenty of ways to find yourself here in Patrick County, Virginia.

276-693-2005
visitpatrickcounty.org

Patrick County Tourism
126 N. Main St.,
Stuart, VA 24171

 @visitpatrickcountyva

► LODGING

Chestnut Ridge Farm A cozy three-bedroom, one-bathroom, pet-friendly farmhouse at Milepost 152. Enjoy porch rockers, farm animals, mountain views, and stars galore! chestnutridgefarm.net 540-493-8372

Crooked Mountain Located at 1378 Shooting Creek Rd SE, Floyd near Milepost 159.3. A variety of amenities including a You-Pick flower farm and store can be found at this campground only half a mile from the Parkway. crookedmtn.com 540-541-9734

Hotel Floyd Located at 300 Rick Lewis Way, only six miles off Milepost 165.2. We are a green hotel with 40 unique rooms themed after Floyd's character. Pet-friendly rooms available. hotelfloyd.com 540-745-6080

Moonlight Manor Bed & Breakfast Located at 136 Old Fields Rd. Relax in one of five rooms with mountain views in a quiet, peaceful area. moonlightmanorfloyd.com 540-745-2080

Oak Haven Lodge Comfortable, affordable, overnight accommodations at a 12-room lodge only seven miles from Milepost 164 on Rt. 8. oakhavenlodge.com 540-745-5716

Pine Tavern Lodge Beautiful 1927 historic hotel. Wi-Fi and pet-friendly, offering amenities expected by today's travelers. Two-bedroom suites, private cottage. thepinetavernlodge.com 540-745-4428

Tuggle's Gap Roadside Inn Located off Milepost 165, we have been a Blue Ridge landmark since 1938. Renovated in 2021, we offer free hot breakfast, fast Wi-Fi, and Parkway views! tugglesgap.com 540-745-3402

► RECREATION

Buffalo Mountain Ziplines Virginia's longest and highest zipline adventure is only one mile from Milepost 171.5. Enjoy award-winning scenic family adventure for ages 3 and up. BuffaloMountainZiplines.com 540-200-5234

Floyd Country Store Traditional music, dancing, country food, and shopping. floydcountystore.com 540-745-4563

Villa Appalaccia Winery 752 Rock Castle Gorge. Tuscan-style winery just off the Parkway on Rt. 720. villaappalaccia.com 540-593-3100

► SHOPPING

Wrenn Pottery Find functional porcelain pottery for your home. Located right off the Parkway, near Milepost 153. Stop and shop—the gallery is always stocked with pots. wrennpottery.com 704-562-9825

167 Rocky Knob 4,800 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, campground, and 15 miles of trails, including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Altitude 3,572.

169 Rocky Knob Visitor Center & Park Store 15 miles of trails, including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Altitude 3,572.

176.2 Mabry Mill Self-guiding. Features restored mill and exhibits on rural life in Appalachia.

WILLIS, VA

► LODGING

Cabins off the Parkway Located at 579 Halls Store Rd., near Milepost 174. Enjoy one-, two-, and three-bedroom cabins with scenic views, five-star reviews, and disc golf. cabinsofftheparkway.com 704-807-1886

PATRICK COUNTY, VA

Experience the simple life in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, where natural beauty, outdoor adventure, and history blend. Explore Five-star luxury, cozy cabins, and music festivals of all sizes. Find yourself here. visitpatrickcounty.org 276-694-6094

► LODGING

Wolf Creek Farm & Motorcycle Manor B&B located at Milepost 192. Family-friendly, private fishing lake, pool, patio, and firepit. wolfcreekfarmva.net 276-952-8869

177.7 US 58 Access Point 22 miles west to Hillsville. East to Stuart, Martinsville, and Danville.

MEADOWS OF DAN, VA

► LODGING

Dominion Valley Park Located at Milepost 177.7. Enjoy our outdoor event venue, live music, and 150 campsites with water and electricity. dominionvalleyllc.com 276-694-4245


Tazewell County, Virginia


Nestled in the heart of the Appalachian Mountains, Tazewell County offers an exceptional mix of outdoor adventure, family-friendly fun, and affordability. With its breathtaking landscapes, charming downtowns, and rich heritage, it's a destination that invites both relaxation and exploration without breaking the bank.

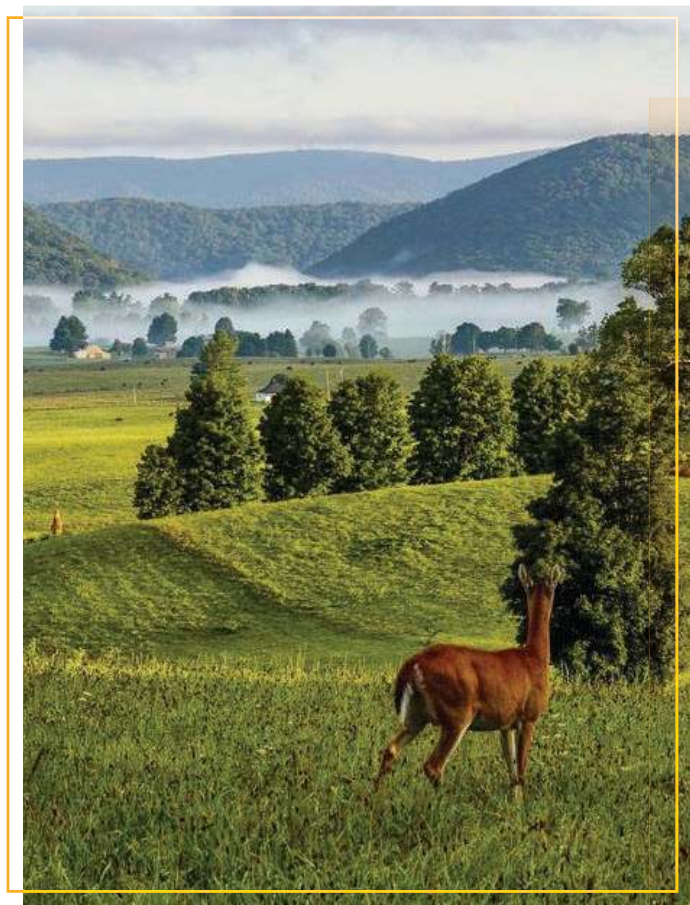
Tazewell is home to Virginia's only designated motorcycle route, the Back of the Dragon, as well as an expansive network of ATV, UTV, and Jeep trails, making it a prime spot for off-road enthusiasts. The famous Appalachian Trail also runs through the area, offering unmatched hiking experiences. Visitors can enjoy vibrant downtowns, cultural centers, and preserved historic sites, all while experiencing the region's Appalachian charm.

visittazewellcounty.org

Visit Tazewell County
163 Walnut St.,
Bluefield, VA 24605

 @tazewell_county_virginia

 @visittazewell



Meadows of Dan

Campground & Cabins Open year-round, at Milepost 177.7. Full hookups, bathhouse, dump station, and wooded tent area. Leashed pets welcome in campground only. Furnished log cabin rentals.

meadowsofdancampground.com
276-952-2292

The Oaks RV Resort Located at 7530 Jeb Stuart Hwy., five miles from Milepost 178. A premier RV Resort in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. theoaksvrresort.us 276-222-3333

Primland Resort, Auberge Resorts Collection

Near Parkway Milepost 177. At the heart of this pristine wilderness, Primland Resort awaits on its own 12,000-acre estate where winding trails lead to fresh discoveries. aubergeresorts.com/primland 866-960-7746

Ridge Rider Cabins One-half mile from Milepost 184. Concrete pads for motorcyclists, AC, private bath, fridge, firepit, gas grill. Open year-round. ridgeridercabins.com 276-415-6343

► SHOPPING

Mayberry Trading Post General store and museum featuring food, shopping, local art and artisan goods, and demos. Located at Milepost 181.5. mayberrytradingpostva.com

CARROLL COUNTY, VA

In the heart of the Blue Ridge Plateau, in the middle of VA's famous Crooked Road, and known for scenic mountain vistas and streams. Hiking, fishing, golfing, canoeing, birdwatching, flea markets, mountain music, and festivals. itscoolerinthemtns.com 276-730-3100

199.4 Fancy Gap Access Point US 55. Eight miles north to Hillsville, VA, 1.5 miles to I-77, 20 miles to Wytheville, VA, 33 miles to Pulaski, VA. 14 miles south to Mt. Airy, NC. Altitude 2,920.

HILLSVILLE, VA

Historic Hillsville, Virginia: state and national historic district, Preserve America Community, site of the 1912 Courthouse Shootout, eateries, and shops. townofhillsville.com 276-728-2128

FANCY GAP, VA**► FOOD**

The Gap Deli at the Parkway Located at Milepost 199.5. Savor homemade soup, sandwiches, salads, and desserts. Open daily with seasonal hours. thegapdeli.com 276-728-3881

► LODGING

Blue Ridge Manor Bed and Breakfast Four miles from the Parkway, off Milepost 193, enjoy a farm stay at our bed & breakfast. blueridgemanorbnb.com 276-920-1945

Fancy Gap Cabins & Campground

Picturesque, quiet, family-owned property at Milepost 202.5. RV and tent camping, cabins, and motel rooms available. Motorcycles and bicycles welcome. Free Wi-Fi. fancygapcabinsandcampground.com 276-730-7154

► RECREATION

Skyland Lakes Golf Club Located at Milepost 202.2 at Rt. 608. Public 18-hole golf course around mountains and lakes. Accommodations available. skylandlakesgolfclub.com 276-728-4923

WYTHEVILLE, VA

Outdoor recreation, arts, music, theater, history, wineries, motorcycle trails, mountains...An authentic getaway awaits you. Wytheville... There's only one. visitwytheville.com 877-347-8307

► LODGING

Bolling Wilson Hotel A 1927 hotel designed to honor Wytheville's Edith Bolling Wilson, featuring elegant, cosmopolitan design elements that tell the story of her life. bollingwilsonhotel.com 276-223-2333

► RECREATION

Appalachian Backroads Ride the wild side! Featuring 14 vetted motorcycle routes. appalachianbackroads.com 276-762-0011

Wytheville, Virginia

Nestled at the crossroads of Interstates 77 and 81, Wytheville welcomes travelers with Blue Ridge Mountain views, small-town charm, and rich Southern hospitality. Explore its history in museums, including the birthplace of a First Lady, or enjoy outdoor adventures like mountain biking and motorcycling. Visit a safari park with exotic animals, sip wines and craft beers, stroll lavender gardens, or stay in a unique Conestoga Wagon. Don't miss Broadway-style shows at the local dinner theatre or family-friendly events at the restored Millwald Theatre. With unique shopping, distinctive dining, and deluxe accommodations, Wytheville offers something for everyone. Join the Mountain fun in Wytheville—There's Only One!

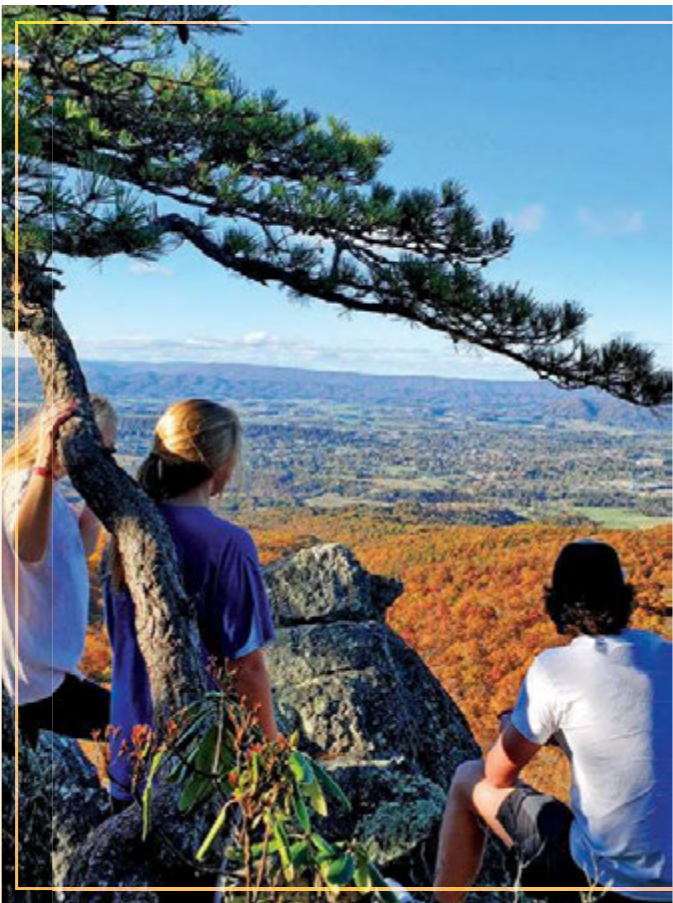


877-347-8307
visitwytheville.com

Visit Wytheville
975 Tazewell St.
Wytheville, VA 24382

@visitwytheville

@visitwytheville



Beagle Ridge Herb Farm South of Wytheville. Enjoy lavender, butterflies, wildlife, views, and hiking. beagleridge.org 276-621-4511

Big Walker Lookout Observation tower, scenic views, hiking trails, café, craft and novelty shop. Exit Fancy Gap, US 52 North. Open year-round. scenicbeauty-va.com 276-663-4016

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Heart of Appalachia Tourism Authority Filled with adventure, from ATV riding and whitewater rafting to picturesque wineries and tranquil waterfalls, you'll find what your heart desires in the Heart of Appalachia. heartofappalachia.com 276-762-0011

TAZEWELL COUNTY, VA

The adventure tourism capital of the Appalachians, Tazewell is home to the best ATV trails, motorcycle routes including the famed "Back of the Dragon," hiking, biking and other adventures, plus scenic vistas that can't be beat. visittazewellcounty.org 276-322-1345

ABINGDON, VA

► ATTRACTIONS

The Crooked Road—Virginia's Heritage Music Trail Visit the place where America's Music was born...and lives on. thecrookedroadva.com 276-492-2409

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Friends of Southwest Virginia Southwest Virginia Cultural Center, visitor center, music venue, and artisan marketplace. Gateway to regional crafts, music, and outdoor fun. visitswva.org 276-492-2400

BRISTOL, VA/TN

An energetic destination with outdoor adventures at South Holston Lake and Dam, bass fishing, racing action at Bristol Motor Speedway, and Bristol's musical roots at the Birthplace of Country Music Museum. explorestbristol.com 423-793-7503

► ATTRACTIONS

Birthplace of Country Music Museum This Smithsonian Institution affiliate tells the story of the 1927 Bristol Sessions and their continued impact on music today. birthplaceofcountrymusic.org 423-573-1927

Bristol Caverns Five miles southeast of Bristol on US 421, 8 miles from I-81, exit 3. A journey that will take you through millions of years of timeless beauty. Largest caverns in the Smoky Mountain region. Open daily. bristolcaverns.com 423-878-2011

GALAX, VA

Galax, Virginia, blends scenic mountain beauty with rich musical heritage. Ride the New River Trail, enjoy live bluegrass and old-time music, explore local art, and savor a slower pace in a welcoming downtown—perfect for a relaxing overnight escape. visitgalax.com 276-238-8130

213 Blue Ridge Music Center Visitor Center and Park Store. Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled performances, June–Sept. Open daily summer–Oct. blueridgemusiccenter.org 276-236-5309

215.8 VA 89 Access Point Seven miles north to Galax.

GRAYSON COUNTY, VA

Grayson County Visitors Center, 107 East Main St., Independence, VA 24348. graysoncountyva.com 276-773-8002

► LODGING

Cool Breeze Campground Exit Milepost 215, go 0.75 north on Rt. 89, left on Edmonds Rd./Rt. 613 for 2.5 miles. Full hookups, big-rig friendly, bathhouse, laundry, and more. Free Wi-Fi and pet-friendly. Open year-round. coolbreezecampground.com 276-236-0300

MT. AIRY, NC

Exit Milepost 199.5, US 52 South. Twelve miles south of Fancy Gap, VA. Visit Andy Griffith's hometown and inspiration for the fictional town of Mayberry. Visit the Andy Griffith Museum, squad car tours, Floyd's Barbershop, and the historic downtown. visitmayberry.com 800-948-0949

SURRY COUNTY, NC

South of the Parkway on US 21, NC 18, NC 89, and US 52. Lodging, restaurants, shopping, wineries, outdoor recreation, and more. yadkinvalleync.com 800-948-0949





Mount Airy, North Carolina

Mount Airy, part of the Yadkin Valley Wine Region, is a charming town that captures the spirit of Mayberry with friendly people, great food, and scenic beauty. Enjoy Mayberry attractions like the Andy Griffith Museum, Andy and Opie's statue, Squad Car Tours, Wally's Service Station, and Floyd's Barbershop. Explore downtown shops and dining, visit the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History, and savor local wines. Catch weekly bluegrass and old-time music jams at the Earle Theatre, or sing and dance at the Summer Concert Series at Blackmon Amphitheatre. Just 15 minutes from Milepost 199.5 on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

800-948-0949
visitmayberry.com

Mount Airy Visitors Center
200 N. Main St.,
Mount Airy, NC 27030

 @visitmayberrync

 @visitmayberrync

► LODGING

Pilot Knob Inn Relax in tobacco-barn cabins or honeymoon suites with whirlpools and fireplaces on 100+ acres. Enjoy boating and fishing on the lake, a full breakfast, and sauna access. pilotknobinn.com 336-325-2502

DOBSON, NC

► ATTRACTIONS

Shelton Vineyards & Harvest Grill

From Milepost 119.5, take US 52 to I-77 South, exit 93. This estate winery offers tours and tastings daily. The on-site restaurant serves lunch and dinner Mon.–Sat. and lunch on Sun. sheltonvineyards.com 336-366-4724

► LODGING

Hampton Inn & Suites–Shelton Vineyards

Located off Milepost 199, take US 52 to I-77 South, exit 93. Enjoy a wine bar, indoor pool, exercise room, hot breakfast, and meeting rooms. hilton.com/en/hotels/intdbhx-hampton-suites-dobson 336-353-9400

STOKES COUNTY, NC

From nearly 7,000 acres of Hanging Rock State Park to 58 miles of the Dan River, Stokes County offers outdoor entertainment for everyone. Hiking, kayaking, golfing, antiquing, farm tours, mountain biking, and much more. hangingrock.com 336-593-2496



Bryson City, NC

EXPLORE WATERWAYS

The Blue Ridge Parkway is more than a road—it is a gateway to unforgettable water adventures. Along the Parkway in surrounding communities, visitors can paddle scenic rivers, kayak peaceful mountain lakes, cast a line in cold mountain streams, or enjoy tubing and whitewater rafting spanning from Shenandoah to the Great Smoky Mountains.

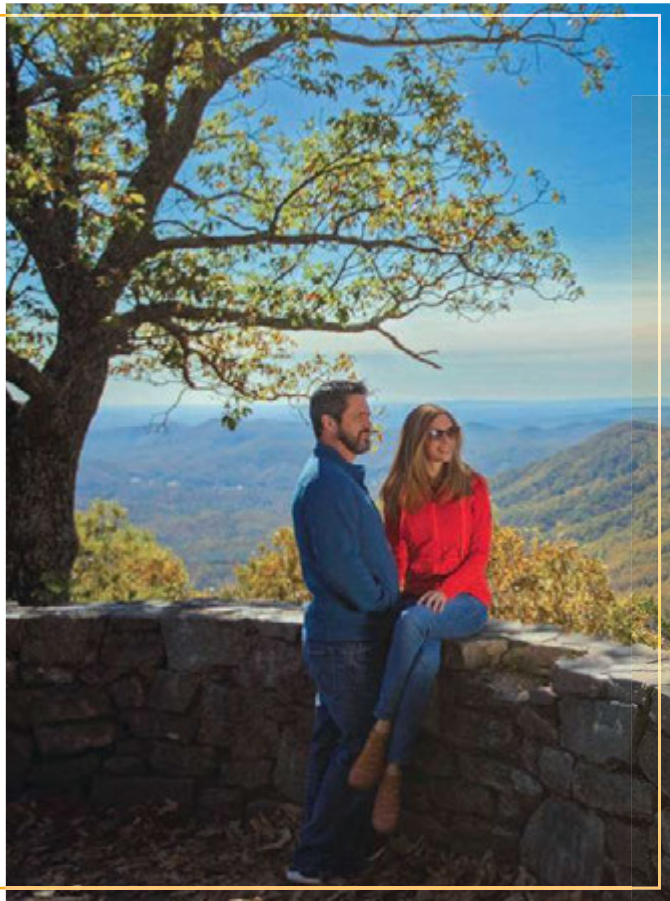
From guided river trips with **Shenandoah River Outfitters** in **Luray, VA** to the rushing rapids and outdoor experiences of **Nantahala Outdoor Center** in **Bryson City, NC**—opportunities for adventure can be found throughout the region. Waterfalls, swimming holes, and lakeside recreation areas also provide perfect places to relax and cool off during warmer months.

Whether seeking a thrilling ride through whitewater rapids or a quiet afternoon on the water, the Blue Ridge Mountains offer



SCAN FOR INFO

memorable outdoor experiences for every type of traveler. Discover more adventures, scenic stops, and trip ideas using the QR code.




Surry County, North Carolina


Whether you enjoy walking, biking, paddling, or relaxing with a glass of Yadkin Valley wine, Surry and the Yadkin Valley have it all! It's our very gracious, very spirited, and very festive nature that makes Surry a delightful place to visit. From Mayberry to Merlot, cruise-ins to mandolins, and scenic wonders to delightful dining, Surry is a rich blend of southern pleasures.

Visit one of over 40 Yadkin Valley wineries and savor the rich history of our region. Exit Milepost 229 and follow Hwy. 21 to Elkin, or exit Milepost 199.5, following Hwy. 52 south.

800-948-0949
yadkinvalleync.com

Mount Airy Visitors Center
200 N. Main St.,
Mount Airy, NC 27030

 @yadkinvalleync

 @yadkinvalleync



LIVE MUSIC ON THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES SATURDAYS @ 7 PM



MAY 23

Shawn Camp



MAY 30

Songs from the Road Band



JUNE 6

Laurelyn Dossett Band + Dori Freeman



JUNE 13

Steep Canyon Rangers



JUNE 20

The Martha Bassett Show



JUNE 27

The Burnett Sisters Band



JULY 4

Mustard Cutters
Noon - 4pm FREE



JULY 11

Krüger Brothers



JULY 18

TopHouse



JULY 25

Scythian



AUG 1

From China to Appalachia



AUG 15

Trey Hensley



AUG 22

Seán Heely Celtic Band



AUG 29

Amanda Cook Band



SEPT 5

Chatham Rabbits Band

FREE

MIDDAY MOUNTAIN MUSIC
DAILY, 12-3 PM

ROOTS OF AMERICAN MUSIC MUSEUM
DAILY, 10 AM-5 PM

MILEPOST MUSIC AT PARKWAY DESTINATIONS
SUNDAYS, 2-4 PM

TICKETS AT BLUERIDGEMUSICCENTER.ORG



Music Center Road, Galax, Va. | Milepost 213 on the Blue Ridge Parkway

A Perfect Day in the Blue Ridge Parkway

Highlands Region

Virginia/North Carolina border to Spruce Pine

Beacon Heights
In memory of Charlie
LISA GREGORY

Chestoa View Overlook



The Bluffs restaurant



Highlands Region

The Highlands Region of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a scenic paradise offering outdoor adventures, stunning views, and charming towns. Here's how to make the most of a day in this picturesque area.

Start your day at **Cumberland Knob**, where construction of the Blue Ridge Parkway began. Enjoy a peaceful hike along the **Gully Creek Trail**, which winds through a lush forest and offers beautiful views.

Next, head to **Fox Hunters Paradise**, an overlook with panoramic views of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Continue to **Devil's Garden Overlook**, where unique rock formations and expansive vistas await. For a more adventurous detour, visit **Stone Mountain State Park**, located in Wilkes and Alleghany counties, where hiking trails lead to stunning waterfalls, including the 600-foot **Stone Mountain Falls**. Explore more in **Elkin** or **North Wilkesboro**, where you can find more trails, parks, music, and festivals.

Next, explore **Doughton Park**, one of the Parkway's largest recreation areas with 30 miles of trails, camping, and spectacular views. Take in the historic **Brinegar Cabin**, and, if you're hungry,

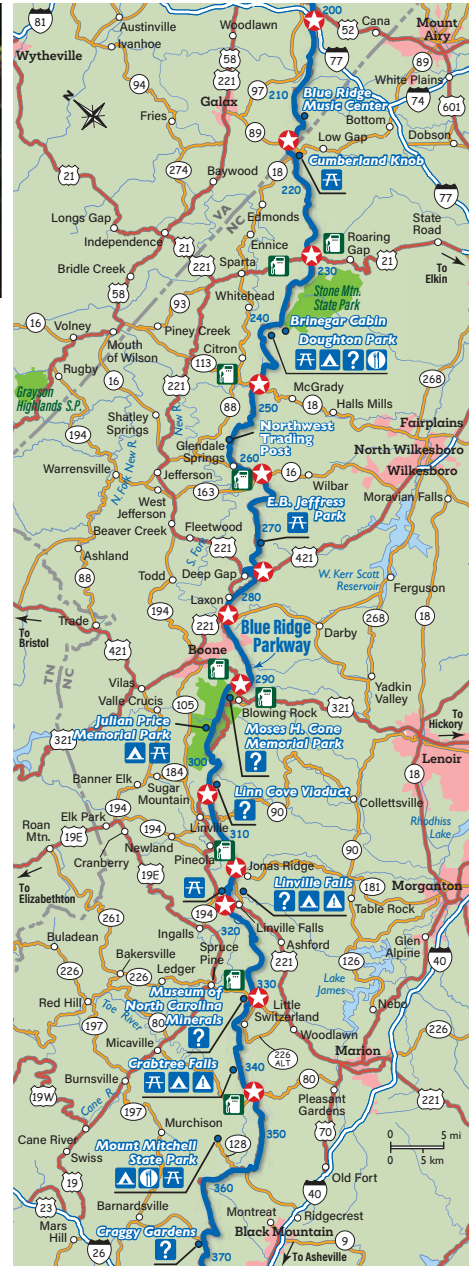
stop at **The Bluffs** restaurant for a delicious, seasonal meal.

Plan to spend your afternoon exploring small towns along the Parkway like **Sparta**, **West Jefferson**, **Boone**, and **Blowing Rock**. Unwind by shopping in quaint downtowns, or stop for a bite to eat at charming cafés along your route.

For more outdoor activities, visit **Moses H. Cone Memorial Park**, a historic estate with beautiful trails and scenic views. Nearby, **Julian Price Memorial Park** offers peaceful walks, fishing, and boating on Price Lake.

Wrap up your day at **Grandfather Mountain**, where you can experience the iconic Mile-High Swinging Bridge and tackle its challenging hiking trails. Along the way, take time to explore charming small towns nestled between the Highlands and Pisgah regions, such as **Marion** and **Old Fort**, each offering unique local character and scenic beauty.

Finally, cap off your adventure with a visit to the **Linn Cove Viaduct**, a marvel of engineering that provides fantastic photo opportunities, marking the perfect end to your journey through these stunning Highlands Region landscapes.



! Visitors to the Highlands Region are encouraged to check current conditions before traveling. For the latest Blue Ridge Parkway updates and closures, visit nps.gov/blri.

MAP KEY

- Camping
- Fuel
- Food
- Picnic Area
- Info
- Access Point

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC

In Sparta and Alleghany County, you won't find crowds or the hustle and bustle of the "real world"—just a cool, peaceful mountain retreat. Come visit and stay awhile. Dine, shop, hike, fish, wander the backroads, or simply rest and recover. It's real, it's relaxing, and we're happy to share our Blue Ridge with you. No rush, just fresh air, starry nights, and a pace that lets you breathe again.

alleghanycountychamber.com 336-372-5473

216.9 NC-VA State Line Altitude 2,547.

217.3 NC 18 Access Point

217.5 Cumberland Knob

1,000 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, and drinking water. 15-minute loop trail to Cumberland Knob (elevation 2,855). Loop trail into Gully Creek Gorge. Two hours.

218.6 Fox Hunters Paradise Overlook and parking area. A one-minute walk on a paved trail takes you to a rock pedestrian overlook near the spot where old-time hunters listened to their hounds. Altitude 2,805.

229.7 US 21 Access Point

West seven miles to Sparta, NC. 17 miles to Independence, VA. East four miles to Roaring Gap, NC.

238.5 Brinegar Cabin Built by Martin Brinegar in about 1880 and lived in until the 1930s, when the homestead was purchased from his widow for the Parkway.

238.5 Doughton Park With 6,000 acres, this park has more than 30 miles of hiking trails of varying difficulty. Hikers may encounter 25 stream crossings through ankle- to knee-deep water. Enjoy modest strolls, daylong outings, or strenuous trails.

239 Doughton Park Campground Trailer sites, comfort stations, and drinking water.

241 Doughton Park Visitor Information Station, Park Store & The Bluffs Restaurant Historic, restored restaurant serving traditional Southern breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Elevation 3,702.

241.1 Wildcat Rocks View the Caudill House, a survivor from a community largely destroyed by an early 20th century flood.

248.1 NC 18 Access Point Two miles west of Laurel Springs. 24 miles east to North Wilkesboro, NC.

GLADE VALLEY, NC

► RECREATION

Williamson Mead and Brewing
World-class mead and cider producer

in Glade Valley, NC. Located half a mile west of the Mountain View Road exit. williamsonbrewing.com 661-827-7290

SPARTA, NC

► LODGING

Alleghany Inn Located at 341 N. Main St., we have 64 rooms, free wireless internet, 100+ channels of cable TV, guest laundry, and a restaurant on-site. alleghanyinn.com 888-372-2501

ROARING GAP, NC

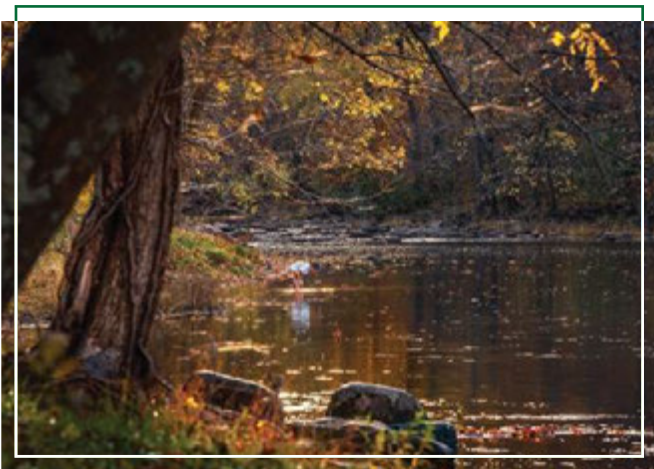
► ATTRACTIONS

Olde Beau Resort & Golf Club Located at 729 Olde Beau Blvd., just off Milepost 229.7. Relax in comfortable rooms, practice your swing at the golf course, or lounge at the pool. oldebeauresort.com 800-752-1634

ELKIN, NC

Exit at Milepost 229, travel south on US 21. Visit more than six wineries of the Yadkin Valley on your way to historic Elkin. Lodging, restaurants, shopping, and more. exploreeelkin.com 336-526-1111

KEY: **129.6** - Parkway milepost numbers




Alleghany County & Sparta, North Carolina

Alleghany County of the Blue Ridge boasts stunning mountain views, Doughton Park, the New River, and the charming town of Sparta. A quiet, delightful destination with enjoyable shopping, eateries, and foot-stomping mountain music.

336-372-5473
alleghanycountychamber.com

Alleghany County & Sparta
58 S. Main St.,
Sparta, NC 28675


 @alleghanychamber

The Blowing Rock

Experience history, nature, and adventure. At 4,000 feet, enjoy panoramic views, cliffside scenery, and the legendary wind phenomenon that makes this the only place in the world where snow falls upside down.

828-295-7111
theblowingrock.com

The Blowing Rock
432 The Rock Rd.,
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

 @thebrtravelattraction



► VISITOR INFORMATION

Yadkin Valley Heritage Corridor

It starts with a river. From Milepost 276.4 through Milepost 199.5, discover wineries, outdoor adventure, and small towns bursting with charm. goyadkinvalley.com

JONESVILLE, NC

Heart of the Yadkin Valley. Exit at Milepost 229, go south of the Parkway on US 21 to I-77, exit 82. Jonesville is a true hub for visitors to the Yadkin Valley Wine Region, boasting at least 12 wineries that offer tours, tastings, and refined dining. visitjonesvillenc.com
336-835-2000

GREENSBORO, NC

Come explore the historic grounds of the Revolutionary War battlefields at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. To pack in even more, spend time in our revitalized downtown. visitgreensboronc.com 800-344-2282

LAUREL SPRINGS, NC

► LODGING

Miller's Campground One mile north of NC 18, at Milepost 247, discover tent sites, full hookups (30 and 50 amp), hot showers, laundry, and Wi-Fi. Open April 1-Oct. 31. millerscamping.com 336-359-2828

ASHE COUNTY, NC

Enjoy scenic views, hiking, biking, canoeing, golf, three historic towns, an arts district, crafts, and festivals. Ashe Chamber, PO Box 31, West Jefferson, NC 28694 ashechamber.com
888-343-2743

► LODGING

Fleetwood Falls 9.5 miles northwest of the Parkway, off US 221 and on State Road 1106, discover a quiet place open year-round, nestled in the mountains along the New River. Real estate for sale. fleetwoodfalls.com
336-877-1110

261.2 NC 16 Access Point West 12 miles to Jefferson, 14 miles to West Jefferson, and 26 miles to Grassy Creek. East 20 miles to North Wilkesboro.

JEFFERSON, NC

► LODGING

HAVEN at Greenwood Glen Relax in one of eight elegant rental cabins. Located only 300 yards off of Parkway Milepost 256, yet hidden from view. havenatgreenwoodglen.com
336-649-6130

Jefferson Landing, a gated resort community near West Jefferson and the historic New River, is minutes from fine dining, shopping, music,

and art. Enjoy a massage, golf, fishing, hiking, or relaxing by the pool. In addition to luxury estates for purchase or rent, we offer lodging from rooms and homes to our stately Manor House. Guests enjoy access to the clubhouse, pool, fitness center, and onsite restaurants. Perfect for a corporate retreat, wedding, or golf getaway. <https://visitjeffersonlanding.com/>
800-292-6274

WEST JEFFERSON, NC

Historic West Jefferson is located 14 miles from Milepost 261. Art galleries, restaurants, unique shops, and a new 3.5-mile town hiking trail, Paddy Mtn. Park. visitwestjefferson.org 866-607-0093

► LODGING

Park Vista Motor Lodge & Diner Located on the Parkway at Milepost 268, Park Vista features a beautiful setting, updated rooms, firepit and picnic area, and an on-site diner with incredible food. Visit our historic 1898 Watson General Store. Come stay awhile! parkvistanc.com 336-977-7845

► RECREATION


Mountain Aire Golf Club This beautiful 18-hole public golf course is in great condition with reasonable rates. Exit the Parkway at Glendale Springs or Deep Gap to locate us at 1396 Fairway Ridge Dr. mountainaire.com
336-877-4716




Elkin, North Carolina

Nestled in the heart of North Carolina's Yadkin Valley, Elkin is a hidden gem for outdoor lovers and adventure seekers. Hike or bike scenic sections of the Overmountain Victory Trail, Elkin & Alleghany Rail Trail, and the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, or launch a kayak and paddle the Yadkin River. Downtown Elkin blends historic charm with unique shops, art galleries, and local breweries. Enjoy live music every weekend at the Historic Reeves Theater or one of the town's lively watering holes. Farm-to-table dining and year-round festivals add to the energy. Nearby, explore award-winning wineries along the Surry County Wine Trail in the Yadkin Valley AVA, home to nearly 50 vineyards. Elkin offers the perfect getaway for visitors.

info@exploreeelkin.com
exploreeelkin.com

 @exploreeelkin

 @exploreeelkin



268 Benge Gap

272 E.B. Jeffress Park Picnic area, comfort station, and trail to Cascades.

WILKES COUNTY, NC

The Blue Ridge Parkway is our northern county line. Exit at Mileposts 248.2 (NC 18), 261 (NC 16), or 276.4 (US 421). Information: PO Box 727, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659.

E-mail: chamber@wilkesnc.org
wilkeschamber.com 336-838-8662

276.4 Deep Gap, Access Point

US 421, west 11 miles to Boone. East 26 miles to North Wilkesboro.

NORTH WILKESBORO, NC

Living starts here! Located in the foothills of the North Carolina Blue Ridge Mountains.

downtownnorthwilkesboro.com
 336-667-7129

FERGUSON, NC

► **LODGING**

Blue Ridge Ranch Campground, RV hookups (water and electric), glamping teepees, stocked ponds, trout stream, waterfalls, farm animals, overlanding, and outdoor events.
blueridgeranch.com/camping
 336-973-1166

285.5 Bamboo Road Access Point

Boone, NC.

BOONE, NC

Our welcoming mountain town offers something for just about everyone, any time of the year.

From epic outdoor adventures to world-famous spas and cozy mountain cabins to grand historic inns, there are many reasons why it's better in Boone. exploreboone.com 828-266-1345

► **FOOD**

Dan'l Boone Inn For more than 50 years, Dan'l Boone Inn has served delicious home-cooked meals, just like you remember at grandma's house. Honored locally and nationally for our country-style cuisine. danlbooneinn.com 828-264-8657

Gamekeeper Restaurant Exit at Milepost 294, turn right on Shull's Mill Road, 2.5 miles. Discover an eclectic stone cottage, outdoor dining, and local harvests.

gamekeeper-nc.com 828-963-7400

Lost Province Brewing Company Brewpub located in downtown Boone at 130 N. Depot St. Serving authentic and innovative craft beer with savory wood-fired fare.
lostprovince.com 828-265-3506

Peppers Restaurant Crafting famous sandwiches since 1975, featuring steaks and seafood, soup, a salad bar, and homemade desserts. Located at the Shops at Shadowline near Harris-Teeter. Open every day. peppers-restaurant.com 828-262-1250

► **LODGING**

Blue Ridge Tourist Court Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. Fully restored historic motel.
blueridgetouristcourt.com 828-290-9848

Boone KOA Kampground From Boone, follow 194 north three miles, left on Ray Brown Road in one mile. Discover the beautiful view at 123 Harmony Mountain Lane. Recreation room, store, laundry, and pool. koa.com/campgrounds/boone 828-264-7250

Comfort Suites Boone Located at 1184 Hwy. 105, six miles from the Parkway. Unwind in a suite and enjoy heating, a hot breakfast, an indoor pool, and exercise and game rooms. choicehotels.com/north-carolina/boone/comfort-suites-hotels/nc052 888-770-6800

Country Inn & Suites-Boone Located at 818 E. King St. Close to all local attractions. Offers free Wi-Fi, hot breakfast, indoor pool, and gym. Standard rooms and suites. radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/country-inn-boone-nc 828-264-4100

Courtyard by Marriott-Boone Located at 1050 Hwy. 105. Unwind in our brand new hotel in the High Country of North Carolina. marriott.com/en-us/hotels/hkybn-courtyard-boone/overview 828-265-7676



West Jefferson, North Carolina

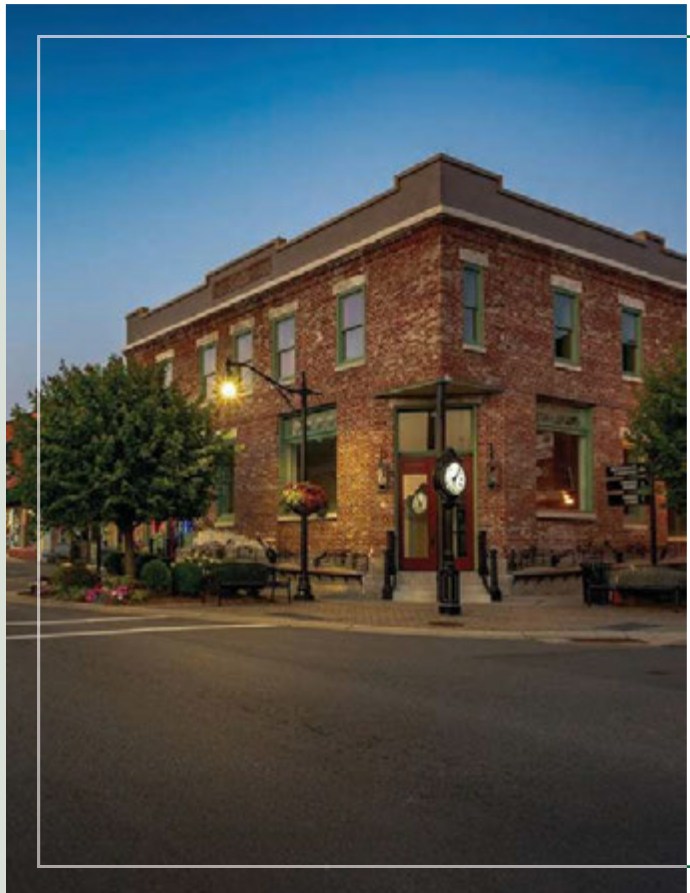
West Jefferson, North Carolina is a charming mountain town located just 20 minutes off the Blue Ridge Parkway, known for its vibrant arts scene, unique shops, antiques, and restaurants. During the summer months, West Jefferson hosts annual festivals, outdoor concerts, gallery crawls, a weekly farmers market, and other special events that draw visitors throughout town.

Stroll through a lively district of boutiques, galleries, and local dining. Take a walking tour of more than 13 mountain murals, stop by the Ashe County Cheese Factory for fresh cheese curds, or enjoy a local craft brewery. In the fall, explore the countryside on a barn quilt tour or prepare for the holidays with a choose-and-cut Christmas tree. Lodging includes the newly renovated West Jefferson Hotel.

1-800-438-7500
visitwestjefferson.org

West Jefferson, NC
 Exit at Milepost 259

@visitwestjefferson 
 @visitwj 



Fairfield Inn & Suites–Boone

Located at 2060 Blowing Rock Rd., five miles from the Parkway. We offer continental breakfast. marriott.com/hotels/travel/hkyfi-fairfield-inn-and-suites-boone 800-228-2800

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton–Boone

Just off Milepost 291.9 at 1252 Hwy. 421 South. We are Boone's only Hilton hotel, opened in Oct. 2016. Enjoy a heated pool and free Wi-Fi. hilton.com/en/hotels/hkyboh-hampton-suites-boone 828-386-6464

Hidden Valley Motel Facing Highway 105 between Boone and Linville. We are centrally located to Boone, Blowing Rock, Valle Crucis, Banner Elk, and Linville. hiddenvalleymotel.com 828-963-4372

La Quinta Inn & Suites Located at 165 Hwy. 105 and walking distance to Appalachian State University and downtown. Discover Grandfather Mountain and popular ski areas nearby. wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/boone-north-carolina/la-quinta-boone/overview 828-262-1234

Quality Inn & Suites University Located at 840 E. King St. Close to all local attractions. Enjoy free hot breakfast, Wi-Fi, a pool, refurbished rooms, suites, and select hot tub rooms. choicehotels.com/north-carolina/boone/quality-inn-hotels/nc790 828-266-1100

Rhode's Motor Lodge Located at 1377 Blowing Rock Rd. Enjoy a modern lodge experience with an on-site restaurant. rhodesmotorlodge.com 828-865-1110

Willow Valley Resort Three miles off Hwy. 105 from Boone. One-, two-, and three-bedroom furnished cabins and condos available to rent. Enjoy golf, a pool, and cozy fireplaces. Open 8 a.m.–9 p.m. daily. willowvalley-resort.com 828-963-6551

VALLE CRUCIS, NC**▶ ATTRACTIONS**

Mast General Store Established in 1883 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, this authentic and nostalgic emporium is located in Valle Crucis, eight miles from Boone. Shop clothing, camping gear, shoes and boots, housewares, candy, and gifts. mastgeneralstore.com 828-963-6511

BLOWING ROCK, NC

Charming village on the Parkway known as the Crown of the Blue Ridge. Offering lots of dining, boutique shopping, and abundant celebrations of art and culture collected in a quaint community! Stay in one of many unique lodging options in this walkable destination, wrapped in cool mountain breezes that gave the town its name. Find The Blowing Rock, Appalachian Ski Mountain, Mystery Hill, Tweetsie Railroad

and more attractions and adventure outfitters, plus close proximity to Grandfather Mountain and Boone. Exit US 221 and US 321 at Mileposts 293 and 295. blowingrock.com 877-750-4636

▶ ATTRACTIONS**Blowing Rock Art & History Museum**

We are a must-see destination for visual art and Appalachian heritage. Visit us year-round. Free admission. blowingrockmuseum.org 828-295-9099

High Gravity Adventures

Zip Line/Aerial Adventure Park Located near Milepost 291.9. Reserve your spot on-line using discount code BRP to save 10% on tickets. highgravityadventures.com 828-266-0151

Mystery Hill Feel the strange pull, see water flow uphill, walk the Hall of Mystery, or attempt 40 challenges. Explore heritage and artifact museums. Open year-round off US 221/321 in Blowing Rock. mysteryhill.com 828-264-2792

The Blowing Rock A breathtaking view 4,090 feet above John's River Gorge. Caution: Prevailing winds return light objects thrown over the void. Located at US 321 South. theblowingrock.com 828-295-7111


Tweetsie Railroad Tweetsie is a unique attraction where guests can relive the Wild West with a ride through the Blue

Wilkes County, North Carolina

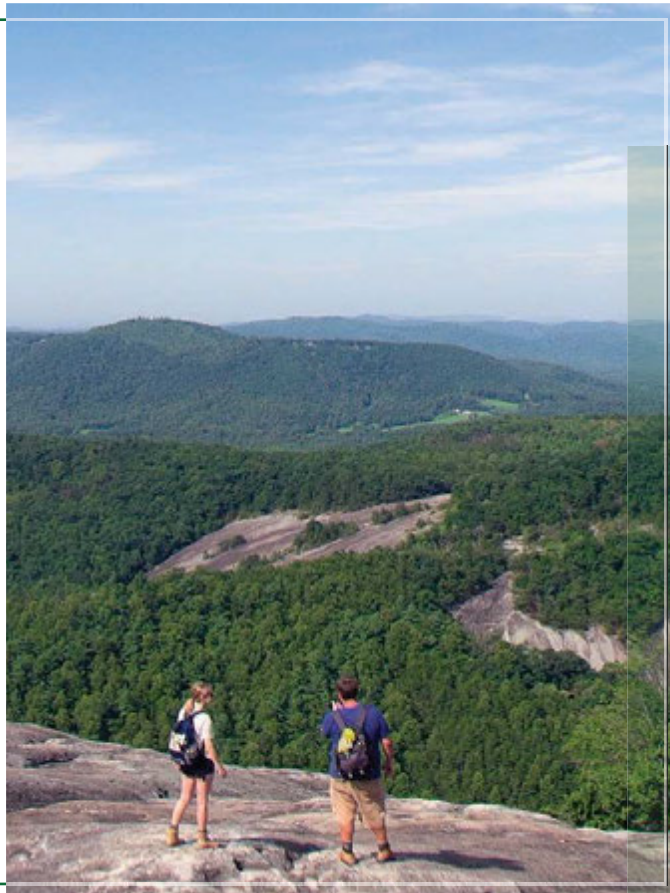
Just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, Wilkes County offers wide-open views, welcoming towns, and authentic Appalachian character. Explore Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro for local flavors, live music, and year-round events. Stretch your legs on trails at Stone Mountain State Park, paddle the Yadkin River, or sip your way through the Yadkin Valley Wine Region. From legendary sounds of Merlefest to the roar of North Wilkesboro Speedway, Wilkes is where the mountain scenery meets unforgettable stores. We're on the way up.

336-838-3951
wilkescountytourism.com

Wilkes County
203 W. Main St.
Wilkesboro, NC 28697

 @visitwilkesnc

 @wilkesnctourism



Ridge Mountains on a historic steam locomotive. Enjoy western-themed shows, amusement rides, and shopping. tweetsie.com 877-893-3874

► **LODGING**

Alpine Village Inn Located at 297 Sunset Dr. Enjoy cozy, pet-friendly rooms and suites with AC and free Wi-Fi. Sit beside the fireplace or take a dip in the hot tub. alpine-village-inn.com 828-295-7206

Azalea Garden Inn Conveniently located on Main Street. A quaint inn that features beautifully landscaped grounds, guestrooms, and a cozy log cabin. azaleagardeninn.com 828-295-3272

Blowing Rock Inn 20 charmingly appointed guest rooms and an exclusive two-bedroom suite located on Blowing Rock's Downtown Main Street. blowingrockinn.com 828-295-3272

Blue Ridge Mountain Rentals Nearly 250 luxurious vacation homes throughout North Carolina's High Country, many near the Blue Ridge Parkway. We can help plan the perfect getaway! Off-season discounts available. blueridgerentals.com 800-237-7975

Chetola Resort Located at 185 Chetola Lake Dr. Discover magnificent views on 87 acres, experience cozy lodging, fine dining, spa services, and outdoor activities including fly fishing and golfing. chetola.com 828-295-5500

Hemlock Inn "A Blowing Rock Tradition" and one of downtown's best locations. Open year-round and located two miles from the Parkway. Walk to shops, restaurants, and the park. Kings, queens, and accessible suites are available. hemlockinn.net 828-295-7987

Holiday Inn Express Blowing Rock Located one mile south on US 321. Unwind in a king or queen bedroom with a microwave, refrigerator, and Wi-Fi. Enjoy hot breakfast and a seasonal outdoor pool. ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/blowing-rock/boorn/hoteldetail 828-295-4422

Homestead Inn Located at 153 Morris St., in the heart of town. Open year-round. Enjoy quaint, cozy, immaculate rooms with AC, flat-screen TV, phone, coffee, fridge, microwave, Wi-Fi, fireplace, and hot tub. homestead-inn.com 828-295-9559

Jenkins Rentals The finest vacation rentals in the Blowing Rock area. Discover homes with hot tubs and long-range mountain views. jenkinsrentals.com 800-438-7803

Meadowbrook Inn Located at 711 Main St., Blowing Rock, Milepost 291.9, in the heart of downtown. Rates include Wi-Fi and access to our indoor pool. meadowbrook-inn.com 828-295-4300

Mountaineer Inn & Log Cabins Vintage motor lodge featuring intimate guest rooms and cozy cabins just a short stroll away from Blowing Rock's Main Street restaurants, shops and galleries. mountaineireinn.com 828-295-3272

Swiss Mountain Village Located at 2324 Flat Top Rd. Stay in one of 40 cabins or Swiss-style chalets and enjoy your retreat, a fishing pond, and relaxation. swissmountain.com 828-295-3373

Westglow Resort and Spa Only one mile from the Parkway on US 221 and open year-round. Enjoy day spa packages, fine dining, and overnight visits. westglowresortandspa.com 828-295-4463

► **SHOPPING**

SHCG Moses Cone Manor A must-stop located at Milepost 294, it represents 400 makers of the Southern Appalachians. Craft demonstrations offered April–Nov. Open daily March 15–Nov. 30; closed on Thanksgiving. southernhighlandguild.org 828-295-7938

► **VISITOR INFORMATION**

NC High Country Host & Regional Visitor Center Find travel information for Banner Elk, Beech Mountain, Blowing Rock, Sparta, Wilkesboro, West Jefferson, and Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily and located at Milepost 291. Order a free vacation planner online. highcountryhost.com 800-438-7500

Boone, North Carolina

Perched at 3,333 feet in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Boone has been Inspiring Awe Since 1849. Boone's small-town charm, laid-back vibe, and endless outdoor adventures make it a perfect year-round base camp along America's Favorite Drive. Whether skiing in winter, hiking among spring wildflowers, escaping summer's sweltering heat, or soaking in vibrant fall foliage, Boone offers a refreshing retreat. Home to Appalachian State University, the town blends rich heritage with youthful energy. After a day of exploring, unwind with great food, shopping, and entertainment. No matter the season, Boone welcomes visitors seeking adventure, relaxation, and breathtaking mountain views. Whenever you visit, we're sure you'll be glad you chose Boone.

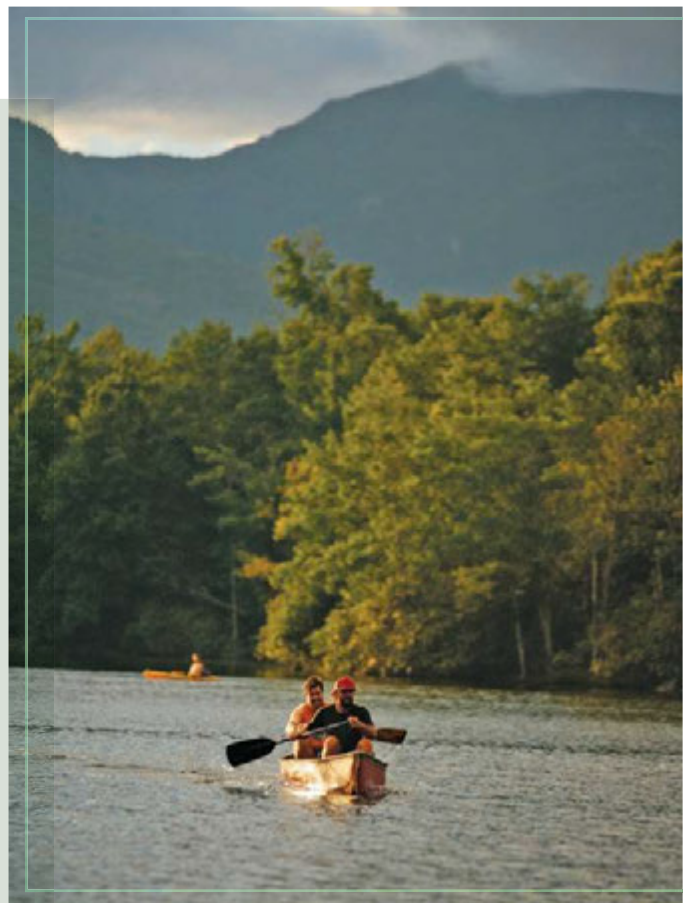


828-266-1345
exploreboone.com

Explore Boone
171 Grand Blvd.
Boone, NC 28607

@exploreboone

@boonenc



291.8 US 221/321 Access Point

Seven miles north to Boone. Two miles south to Blowing Rock.

292.7 Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

3,600 acres. Many miles of horse and carriage trails, hiking, and fishing.

294 Moses Cone Manor House Visitor Center & Park Store

Parkway Craft Center and comfort station.

297 Julian Price Memorial Park

4,344 acres. Campground, picnic area, lake, boating, fishing, and trails. Altitude 3,400. Camping reservations: recreation.gov.

304.4 Linn Cove Viaduct

A world-renowned engineering feat designed to protect the ecologically sensitive slopes of the mountain.

302.8 Rough Ridge

Panoramic views of Grandfather Mountain, the Linn Cove Viaduct, and the surrounding High Country.

CALDWELL COUNTY, NC

"Your time...our place." Sculpted by nature; crafted by man. Discover Caldwell's rich history, quaint towns, live music and theater, festivals and car shows, world-class sculpture exhibits, and more. Located 30 minutes south of Blowing Rock at Milepost 294. explorecaldwell.com 828-726-0616

AVERY COUNTY, NC

Home of the Woolly Worm Festival, Beech Mountain, Grandfather Mountain, and Sugar Mountain, Avery County offers year-round adventure in North Carolina's "High Country." Visit the Avery County Chamber of Commerce in Banner Elk, open Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 4501 Tynecastle Hwy., Unit 14. averycounty.com 800-972-2183

▶ ATTRACTIONS**Crossnore Weavers & Gallery**

This "working museum" displays hand-woven textiles produced since 1920. Open Mon.-Sat. Off of US 221. crossnore.org/weaving-room 800-374-4660

▶ LODGING**Down by the River Campground**

Exit at Milepost 312, right on NC 181 North, continue one mile, left at 292 River Campground Rd. 30- and 50-amp service, hot showers, and laundry. Spacious, level sites, May-Oct. downbytherivercampground.com 828-733-5057

The Pineola US 221, three miles south of Linville, near Milepost 312. Lodging features hotel rooms, cabins, RV and tent sites, tiny house and tree house. Enjoy pickleball, a taproom, live music, and a gift shop. thepineola.com 828-733-4979

▶ RECREATION

Linville Falls Winery Come enjoy the High Country's premier wine experience. Just half a mile off the Parkway, exit Milepost 317 on US 221 North. Daily tours and tasting run from noon-6 p.m. linvillefallswinery.com 828-765-1400

▶ SHOPPING**Snowy Mountain Christmas**

Shop & Sweets Located five miles north of Milepost 317.4 on US 221. Open Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., from May through Christmas Eve. snowymountainchristmasshopandsweets.com 828-737-9313

SEVEN DEVILS, NC

Eleven miles from MP 305.2 via US 221 South to NC 105 North. Awesome views from rental cabins! Otter Falls Park, hiking trails, tennis and pickleball courts, playground, zip line, and tubing. sevendevils.net 828-963-5343

SUGAR MOUNTAIN, NC


Exit the Parkway at Milepost 305.1, taking US 221 South to NC 184 North. Enjoy golf, tennis, biking, rafting, gem mining, skiing, tubing, and more. Ride the scenic lift or stay for events like Oktoberfest or SugarFest. Lodging ranges from efficiencies to large homes. seesugar.com 866-797-8427


**Blowing Rock, North Carolina**

One of the few towns located directly on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping mountain vistas and storybook village charm. Explore hiking trails, biking trails, horseback riding, fly fishing, skiing, and snowboarding at Appalachian Ski Mountain. Shop in our downtown boutiques and outlet stores, or visit attractions including The Blowing Rock, Tweetsie Railroad, Mystery Hill, and Grandfather Mountain. Discover annual events including Blowing Rock Winterfest (January), Art in the Park (May-October), Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show (June-August), and Blowing Rock Plein Air Festival (August). Pamper yourself at one of our spas and indulge in highly rated restaurants. Relax in style in our varied accommodations, from cozy inns and cabins to luxury suites.

877-750-4636
blowingrock.com

Blowing Rock
132 Park Ave.
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

 @blowingrock

 @blowingrocknc

► **LODGING**

Resort Real Estate & Rentals at Sugar Mountain Located at 3390 Tynecastle Hwy. Stay in fully equipped homes and condos or in the cabins on Sugar. Rentals by day, week, and month are available to book online. staysugarmountain.com
800-438-4555

.....
BANNER ELK, NC

Banner Elk is a resort town not far from the Parkway. Base camp for Grandfather Mountain, with dining and lodging, plus two ski resorts in winter. bannernelk.com 828-898-5398

► **LODGING**

Best Western Mountain Lodge-Banner Elk Located on NC 184, seven miles from Milepost 304. Take advantage of seasonal packages at our full-service hotel. bestwesternbannernelk.com
877-877-4553

► **RECREATION**

Grandfather Vineyard & Winery Take the Linville exit, Milepost 305, to US 221. Turn right at the spotlight onto 105 South. Go 7.6 miles and turn right onto Vineyard Lane. Daily tastings from noon to 6 p.m. grandfatherwinery.com
828-963-2400

► **SHOPPING**

Carlton Gallery Located at 10360 Hwy. 105 South, between Boone and Banner Elk. Celebrating 43 years of local and regional artists. Paintings, clay, wood, glass, fiber art, jewelry, and art workshops.
carltongallery.com 828-963-4288

.....
BEECH MOUNTAIN, NC

At 5,506 feet, Beech Mountain is the highest town in the eastern US. Summer temps rarely exceed 75°F, creating an ideal climate for hiking, mountain biking, golf, and tennis. Winters rich in snowfall create ideal ski conditions. Enjoy lodging from hotels to cabins.
beechmtn.com 828-387-9283

► **SHOPPING**

Fred's General Mercantile
Just 30 minutes from Milepost 305.2. Discover everything a general store used to be, and more! If we don't have it, you don't need it! redsgeneral.com
828-387-4838

305.1 Access Point Parkway & US 221

Three miles west to Linville.

308.2 Flat Rock Parking Area

Self-guided nature trail to superb view of Linville Valley and Grandfather Mountain.

312.2 NC 181 Access Point

32 miles southeast to Morganton. Two miles north to Pineola.

.....
LINVILLE, NC

► **ATTRACTIONS**

Grandfather Mountain Lofty heights offer guests opportunities for rejuvenation, excitement, and family memories in a natural haven that will endure forever. Marvel at 360-degree views from the Mile High Swinging Bridge, or stand eye-to-eye with otters, eagles, and deer.
grandfather.com 828-733-4337

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games America's finest gathering of Scottish clans. Enjoy music, dancing, pageantry, athletic events, and children's events.
gmhg.org 828-733-1333

► **LODGING**

Pixie Motor Inn Located at the intersection of NC 105 and US 221. Wi-Fi, cable TV, and air conditioning all included. Open April-Oct.
828-733-2597

.....
BURKE COUNTY, NC

Brown Mountain Lights mystery seen near here in the Pisgah National Forest. Parkway Milepost 312, south on NC 181. Hike Table Rock and the Hawksbill Mountains. See the Linville Gorge and pristine Lake James State Park. discoverburkecounty.com 828-433-6793



Grandfather Mountain

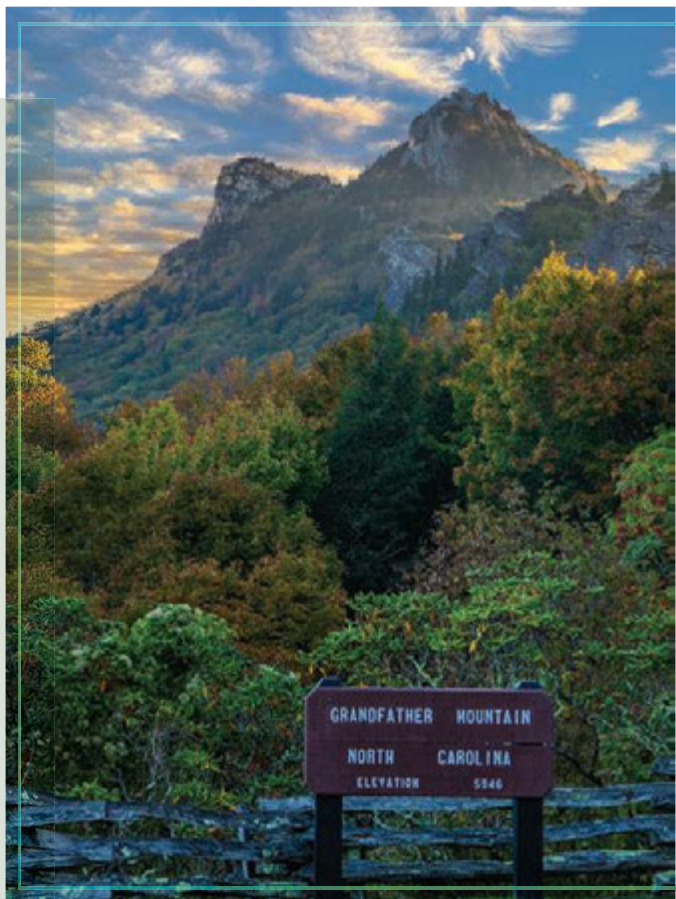
Experience amazing biodiversity and scenic beauty, towering 5,946 feet above northwest North Carolina. Guests drive their own vehicles through the nature park, stopping along the way to enjoy a variety of activities, such as native wildlife exhibits, the Wilson Center for Nature Discovery, hiking trails, and the famous Mile High Swinging Bridge that connects two peaks at one mile above sea level. Enjoy the exhilarating experience of being on top of the world, gazing out across mountain ridges cascading to the horizon, all made easily accessible via a paved road. A restaurant, Mildred's Grill, is also on the property. Daily programs are offered April through October.

800-468-7325
grandfather.com

Grandfather Mountain
2050 Blowing Rock Hwy.
Linville, NC 28646



@grandfathermtn 
@grandfathermtn 



316 Linville Falls A series of stunning cascades tumbling into the Linville Gorge. Easy-to-moderate trails. [▲](#)

316.5 Linville Falls Spur Road Access to Linville Falls hiking trails and parking area.

330.9 Museum of North Carolina Minerals Visitor Center & Park Store Access point at NC 226. Features minerals found in North Carolina and regional geology. Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce.

330.9 Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail Commemorates the campaign leading up to the American victory at Kings Mountain in 1780. Route crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway at Gillespie Gap. nps.gov/ovvi

ELIZABETHTON, TN

"Birthplace of American Democracy," two state parks, largest rhododendron gardens in the US, oldest frame house in Tennessee, and a 134-foot covered bridge. Enjoy the outdoors, camping, water sports, and hiking. tourcartercounty.com 423-547-3850

JOHNSON CITY, TN

▶ VISITOR INFORMATION

Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association Bordering North Carolina, Virginia, and Kentucky in the Appalachian Mountains. Explore the true outdoors, music, history, small-town charm, and Southern culture. northeasttennessee.org 423-262-0238

LINVILLE FALLS, NC

▶ LODGING

Linville Falls Campground, RV Park & Cabins Exit at Milepost 317, turn left (south) on US 221, continue 500 feet. Enjoy beautiful, shaded full-hookup sites, a separate, wooded tent area, cabin rentals, hot showers, and more. Open May 1–Nov. 1. linvillefalls.com 828-765-2681

Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages

Exit at Milepost 317.4, take US 221 South, left one mile to Rt. 183. Dine at the restaurant (ABC permit) or walk to the falls and the gorge. linvillefallslodge.com 800-634-4421

MITCHELL COUNTY, NC

Exit at Milepost 331, and you'll find Bakersville, Little Switzerland, and Spruce Pine. An outdoor and arts community hub and home to the Appalachian Trail and Penland School of Craft. Enjoy hiking, fishing, biking, and discovering gems and minerals. discovermitchellinc.com 828-765-9483

SPRUCE PINE, NC

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Emerald Village Located three miles from the Parkway at Little Switzerland. Enjoy gem mining, gold panning, mine tours, a waterfall, free exhibits, real mines, and fun shopping. emeraldvillage.com 828-765-6463

Gem Mountain Gemstone Mine Located at Milepost 331. Experience an active mine with flume mining at its best. Free fluorescent mineral display, picnic area, gem and jewelry store, and general store. gemmountain.com 888-817-5829

The Altapass Orchard Known for family fun, storytelling, hayrides, and free music. Wed.–Sat., May 15–Oct. 31. Enjoy fudge, ice cream, gifts, apples, books, and crafts. altapassorchard.org 888-765-9531

▶ LODGING

Spacious Skies Bear Den Campground Located at Milepost 324.8. Relax at fully equipped RV sites, tent spots, and cozy cabins. Discover trails to hidden waterfalls, a swimming lake, a camp store, bathhouses, and laundry. spaciousskiescampgrounds.com/bear-den 828-765-2888

Springmaid Mountain Cabins/Campground Retreat with horses, tubing, and fishing. Seven miles north of Milepost 331 at 2171 Henredon Rd. Year-round. springmaidmountain.com 888-297-0725

LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NC

▶ FOOD

Switzerland Café Located on NC 226A, near Milepost 334. Enjoy lunch at the café Easter–Halloween. Purchase Imported beers, wines, cheeses, picnic supplies, T-shirts, and crafts. switzerlandcafe.com 828-765-5289



Pilot Mountain State Park

EXPLORE NEARBY STATE PARKS

The Parkway touches boundaries with a number of state parks, four national forests, and five federally designated wilderness areas. All of these expand visitors' opportunities for recreational activities, including hiking, bicycling, boating, horseback riding, fishing, swimming, and more. Visit these websites to learn more.

- **North Carolina State Parks** ncparks.gov
- **Virginia State Parks** dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks
- **Pisgah and Nantahala national forests (North Carolina)** fs.usda.gov/nfsnc
- **Jefferson and George Washington national forests (Virginia)** fs.usda.gov/main/gwj/about-forest




Southern Highland Craft Guild/ Moses Cone Manor

The Southern Highland Craft Guild in Moses Cone Manor features a craft shop of regional crafts and craft demonstrations mid-April through November.

828-295-7938
craftguild.org

Moses Cone Manor
294 Blue Ridge Parkway,
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

 @craftguild

► **LODGING**

Switzerland Inn Established in 1910 and located on the Parkway. Enjoy mountain-view suites, cottages, and rooms in the main lodge. Enjoy the old world charm of the Chalet Restaurant. switzerlandinn.com 828-385-4500

MCDOWELL COUNTY, NC

At the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains, McDowell County invites you to explore Marion, Old Fort, Little Switzerland, Lake James and Linville Falls. Access the Blue Ridge Parkway for sweeping views, drive the curves of the DiamondbackNC, pick apples at The Orchard at Altapass, and hike to stunning waterfalls like Catawba Falls in Pisgah National Forest. destinationmcdowell.com 888-233-6111

333.9 NC 226A Access Point

To Little Switzerland.

MARION, NC

► **ATTRACTIONS**

Linville Caverns

Exit at Milepost 317.4 and discover North Carolina's only show caverns. Open daily, March–Nov. Open Dec.–Feb. on weekends only. Learn from experienced guides and browse the gift shop. Located on US 221 between Linville and Marion, four miles south of the Parkway. linvillecaverns.com 800-419-0540



NPS/ALEXANDER ARMSTRONG
Hawksbill and Tablerock in Pisgah National Forest

PISGAH NATIONAL FOREST

Nestled along the Blue Ridge Parkway, **Pisgah National Forest** is a haven for outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers. Known for its breathtaking waterfalls, towering trees, and rugged trails, this lush forest offers endless opportunities for adventure. Hikers can explore the renowned Art Loeb Trail or visit the iconic Looking Glass Falls, while cyclists enjoy the challenging terrain.


Pisgah is also home to rich biodiversity, with diverse plant and animal species thriving in its protected environment. With its serene beauty and abundance of activities, Pisgah National Forest is a must-visit destination for those seeking to connect with nature.


Elizabethton & Carter County, Tennessee

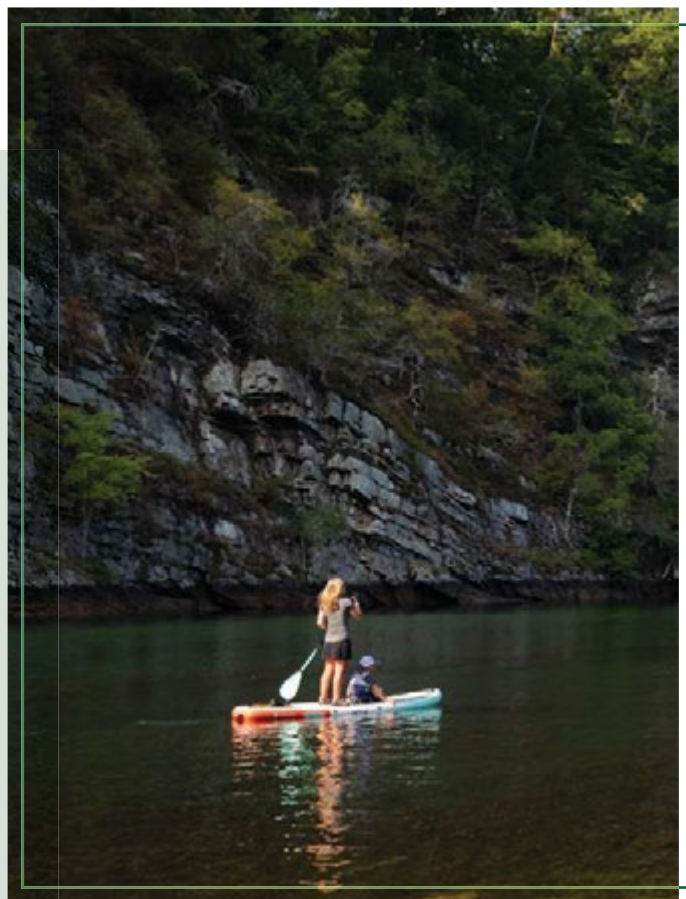
Whether you're an avid adventurer, history buff, or just looking for a new place to explore, Carter County, Tennessee has something for you. Downtown Elizabethton is filled with diverse restaurants, antique shops, a historic covered bridge, and plenty more. Visit Sycamore Shoals State Park to learn about the rich history that took place here during the 18th century. Hike the Appalachian Trail across the Roan Mountain balds or fly-fish for trout on the Watauga River. Rent a boat or kayak and explore Watauga Lake. Stay the night in one of the cozy cabins at Roan Mountain State Park or one of our many campgrounds. Start planning your visit today at tourcartercounty.com!

423-547-3850
tourcartercounty.com

Elizabethton & Carter County
615 E. Elk Ave.,
Elizabethton, TN 37643

@mtnplayground 

@mtnplayground 





BEST SUNRISE & SUNSET SPOTS

Few experiences along the Blue Ridge Parkway are as memorable as watching the sun rise above layers of mountain ridges or fade behind distant peaks. Early mornings bring peaceful overlooks and soft golden light, while evenings offer colorful skies and unforgettable mountain silhouettes. Favorite spots for sunrise and sunset include **Ravens Roost**, MP 10.7, **Thunder Ridge**, MP 74.7, **Rough Ridge**, MP 302.8, **Cowee Mountain Overlook** at MP 430.7 and **Waterrock Knob** at MP 451.2. Arrive early, bring a jacket, and allow extra time to simply slow down and enjoy the view.

► LODGING

The Catawba River Inn Just off of Milepost 317.4, discover a beautiful bed & breakfast. Home to 12 large rooms, each with a fireplace, refrigerator, private deck, and adjacent to the golf course.
catawbariverinn.com 828-756-7001

OLD FORT, NC

► LODGING

Inn on Mill Creek While exploring the Linville and Asheville areas, stay at our casual, comfortable bed & breakfast located at 3895 Mill Creek Rd., in Pisgah National Forest, 20 minutes from Milepost 382.6.
innonmillcreek.com
 828-668-1115




McDowell County, North Carolina


Located in the mountains and foothills of western North Carolina, Marion and Old Fort offer an unmatched abundance of outdoor experiences.

From the high peaks of the Blue Ridge and Black Mountains, to the trails of Pisgah National Forest and the serene waters of Lake James, Adventure knows “No Boundaries” when you make your Destination McDowell. With charming and welcoming towns throughout the county, we boast easy access to some of North Carolina’s most stunning and rugged natural landscapes. With nearly 200 miles of trails, majestic waterfalls, friendly people, art galleries, and rich southern Appalachian history, moments of awe and beauty are plentiful.

destinationmcdowell.com

McDowell County
 91 S. Catawba Ave.,
 Old Fort, NC 28762

 @destinationmcdowell

 @destinationmcdowell





A Perfect Day in the Blue Ridge Parkway

Pisgah Region

Little Switzerland to Cherokee, North Carolina

Looking Glass
DAVID MCKENZIE



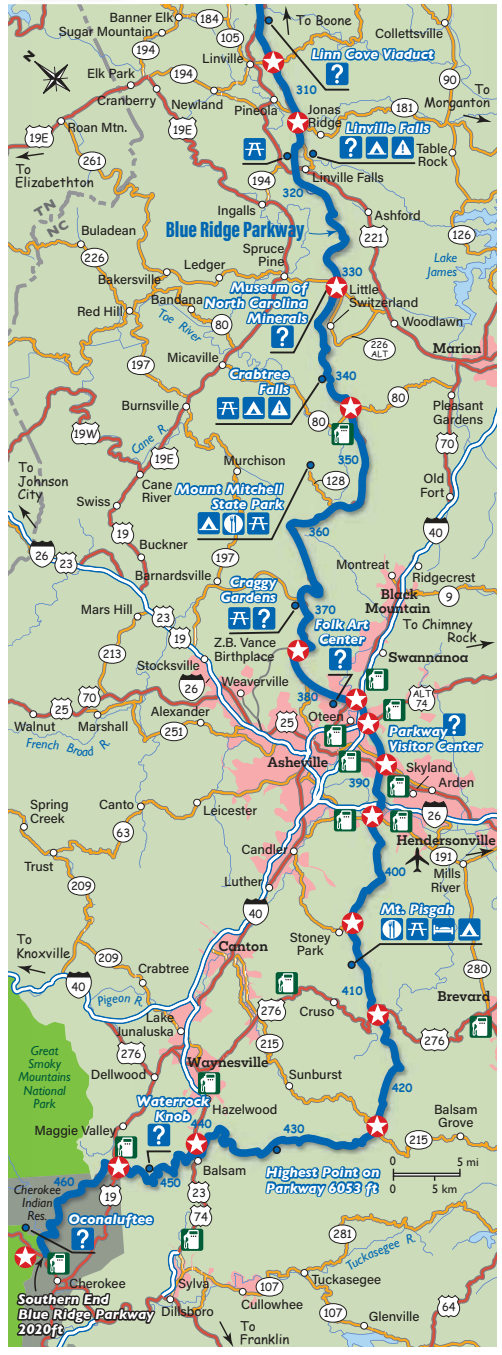
Mile Post 435



Highest Peak/Richland Balsam Overlook



Black Balsam



Pisgah Region

Begin your day in **Little Switzerland**, where a hearty breakfast at the Switzerland Inn sets the tone for a day of adventure. Afterward, explore the town's galleries, browse the Switzerland General Store, or try gem mining at Emerald Village.

Down the Parkway, visit the artsy town of **Burnsville** with its local galleries and historic **Yancey County Courthouse**, then take in the view of **Glassmine Falls** from the nearby overlook. Consider a quick detour to **Spruce Pine**, known for its mining heritage and charming downtown.

Up next, stop at **Craggy Gardens**, where the **Craggy Pinnacle Trail** provides sweeping mountain views. Continue to the **Folk Art Center** in Asheville for a deeper dive into Appalachian crafts and local art. Then, explore downtown **Asheville**, visit the

River Arts District, or stroll the historic and majestic **Biltmore House**.

For more hiking, head to **Mount Pisgah** and tackle the short trail to the summit for beautiful views, or visit the Pisgah Inn for a meal with a view. Make a stop at **Graveyard Fields**, where waterfalls and blueberry bushes await, or head to **Devil's Courthouse** for sweeping vistas of four states.

As the day winds down, visit **Waterrock Knob** for a sunset view, and explore surrounding towns like **Waynesville**, known for its galleries and breweries, or **Maggie Valley**, home to the Wheels Through Time Museum. For a peaceful detour, take **Heintooga Ridge Road** through **Balsam Mountain** before heading to **Cherokee**, rich in Native American history, and home to the **Oconaluftee Indian Village**.

⚠ Visitors to the Pisgah Region are encouraged to check current conditions before traveling. Visit nps.gov/blri for up-to-date information about the Blue Ridge Parkway.

MAP KEY

- Lodging
- Fuel
- Access Point
- Camping
- Picnic Area
- Info
- Food
- Airport

BURNSVILLE, NC

Enjoy small-town charm with bed & breakfasts, inns, handmade crafts, shops, summer theater, golf, hiking, camping, musical events, and festivals on Burnsville's Town Square. yanceychamber.com exploreburnsville.com 828-682-7413

► LODGING

Albert's Lodge at Mt. Mitchell Five minutes north of the Parkway, enjoy large rooms, a kitchenette, AC, HDTV, Wi-Fi, a private deck with spectacular view of the mountains, and a walk to Roaring Fork Falls. albertsloodge.com 828-675-4691

The NuWray Hotel Located at Milepost 331, a unique hotel established in 1833. Follow after famous travelers Mark Twain, Elvis Presley, and others. nuwray.com 828-678-7070

339.5 Crabtree Falls 250 acres. Hiking, camping, comfort station, and drinking water. 40-minute walk to Crabtree Falls. 

340.4 Crabtree Falls Picnic Area 

344.1 NC 80 Access Point Buck Creek Gap. North 16 miles to Burnsville. South 16 miles to Marion.

355 NC 128 to Mount Mitchell State Park Highest peak in the eastern US, observation tower, tent camping area, trails, nature study, picnic area, natural history museum, and restaurant (May-Oct.).

364.5 Craggy Gardens Visitor Center & Park Store Exhibits and publications (May-Oct.). Trails.

367.6 Spur to Craggy Gardens Picnic area, comfort station, and trails.

375.6 NC 694, Ox Creek Road Scenic Elk Mountain Highway. Eight miles to Weaverville. Seven miles to Asheville.

377.4 NC 694 Access Point Town Mountain Road. Seven miles to Asheville.

BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

"The Little Town that Rocks." Near Asheville. Arts and crafts, antiques, galleries, museum, and specialty shops. Hiking, biking, golf, festivals, breweries, and music. 40 restaurants. B&Bs, cabins, and hotels. Pet friendly. Free guide. explorebekblackmountain.com 828-669-2300

► LODGING

Greybeard Vacation Rentals

Nearly 200 Asheville-area cabins and cottages. Many pet-friendly options with hot tubs, views, and more. greybeardrentals.com 828-373-8851

► SHOPPING

Town Hardware & General Store

Browse aisles of smiles! Three historic buildings jam-packed with an extensive and eclectic mix of products. Located at 103 W. State St. Open every day. townhardware.com 828-669-7723

382.5 Access Point Parkway & US 70

West one mile to Oteen, five miles to Asheville. East 10 miles to Black Mountain.

384 Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center & Park Store

Located just off the Parkway at Milepost 384. Museum-quality exhibits, traveler information, and a dramatic 24-minute Parkway movie. Open daily. Information may be obtained by mail—199 Hemphill Knob Rd., Asheville, NC 28803—or by phone. nps.gov/blri 828-298-5330.

384.7 US 74A Access Point West three miles to Asheville. East to Chimney Rock, Bat Cave, Gerton, and Lake Lure.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC

Welcome Center at 2932 Memorial Hwy., Lake Lure, NC 28746, Milepost 384.7. Have the time of your life! visitblueridgenc.com, visitncsmalltowns.com 828-287-6113

CHIMNEY ROCK, NC

► ATTRACTIONS

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock

State Park Stunning 75-mile views over Lake Lure, several unique hiking trails, a 404 ft waterfall, and geological features such as Devils Head and Opera Box. Reach the summit via a 26-story elevator built inside the mountain. chimneyrockpark.com

STEP INTO ADVENTURE ON THE MOUNTAINS-TO-SEA TRAIL

Few experiences connect visitors to the beauty of North Carolina quite like the Mountains-to-Sea Trail. Stretching more than 1,100 miles across the state, this scenic trail links the Great Smoky Mountains to the Outer Banks — and some of its most memorable sections follow alongside the Blue Ridge Parkway.

For Parkway travelers, the trail offers countless opportunities to slow down and explore beyond the overlooks. Hike through quiet spruce-fir forests, discover cascading waterfalls, and take in sweeping mountain views that change with every season. Popular access points near **Waterrock Knob**, **Graveyard Fields**, and **Mount Pisgah** make it easy to enjoy a short walk or a longer backcountry adventure.

Whether you are seeking a peaceful nature stroll or a challenging trek, the Mountains-to-Sea Trail invites visitors to experience the Blue Ridge in a deeper, more unforgettable way.

For more information visit: MountainsToSeaTrail.org



Mountains-to-Sea Trail
JOANNA L DAVIS

► SHOPPING

Bubba O'Leary's General Store 17 miles east of Milepost 384.7, off US 74. Open year-round. Shop for old-timey fun stuff and gear for all your mountain adventures. bubbaolearys.com 828-625-2479

LAKE LURE, NC

► LODGING

Fox Run Townhouses Townhouses with full kitchens, fireplaces, washers, dryers, and Jacuzzi tubs. Enjoy golf, tennis, and water activities. vriresorts.com 866-469-8222

ASHEVILLE, NC

This mountain resort city at Milepost 382.6 of the Blue Ridge Parkway beckons lovers of festivals, the outdoors, fine dining, distinctive shopping, and the Biltmore Estate, a 250-room French Renaissance chateau. The visitor center at exit 4C off I-240 is open 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Mon.–Fri. exploreasheville.com 828-258-6129

► ATTRACTIONS

Biltmore Estate Experience the beauty of Biltmore House—America's largest home®—and century-old gardens. Explore our 8,000-acre Blue Ridge Mountain backyard, taste award-winning wines, dine, and shop. biltmore.com 877-BILTMORE

Folk Art Center Parkway information and bookstore located at Milepost 382. Home of Southern Highland Craft Guild, featuring regional crafts, exhibition galleries, craft demonstrations, events, and National Park Service programs during season. Open daily, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. southernhighlandguild.org 828-298-7928

Groewood Village Located at 111 Groewood Rd., adjacent to the Omni Grove Park Inn. Experience Asheville's historic arts and crafts destination. Free on-site parking. groewood.com 828-214-7768

North Carolina Arboretum Entrance located at Milepost 393. Renowned gardens, hiking trails, biking trails, and engaging exhibitions. ncarboretum.org 828-665-2492

► LODGING

1899 Wright Inn and Carriage House Located at 235 Pearson Dr., only five miles from the visitor center. Queen Anne Victorian with updated and luxurious amenities in the historic district. wrightinn.com 828-251-0789

Asheville Bed & Breakfast Association Stay at the best inns of Asheville! Exits between Mileposts 377.4 and 393.6. Rates and availability can be found online. ashevillebba.com

Asheville Biltmore Fairfield Inn & Suites Turn left onto NC 191, and continue 2.5 miles to find us located on your left, across from Asheville Outlets. marriott.com/hotels/travel/avlbs-fairfield-inn-and-suites-asheville-outlets • 828-665-4242

Asheville Cabins of Willow Winds 25 luxury cabins on 38 acres adjacent to the Parkway and Mountain to Sea Trail. ashevillecabins.com 800-235-2474

Asheville East KOA Located 6.5 miles from the Parkway, east on US 70. Offering Kamping Kabins, lodges, RV and tent sites, two fishing lakes, a pool, and a trout stream on 55 acres. Open year-round. koa.com/campgrounds/asheville-east 828-686-3121

Asheville West KOA Take I-40 to exit 37. Located only minutes from Biltmore Estate, gem mining, river rafting, music, arts and crafts. Offering full hookups, tents, and cabins. koa.com/campgrounds/asheville-west 800-562-9015

Baymont Inn Asheville Located near Biltmore Estate and Biltmore Village, two miles north from Blue Ridge Parkway on US 25. Enjoy an indoor pool, spa, and free breakfast. AAA and AARP rates. wyndhamhotels.com/baymont/asheville-north-carolina/baymont-asheville-biltmore/overview 828-274-2022

Bear Creek RV Park From Blue Ridge Parkway, exit NC 191 North. Open all year with full hookups, paved sites, laundry, and a heated pool (May 15–Sept. 15). ashevillebearcreek.com 800-833-0798



Explore Asheville

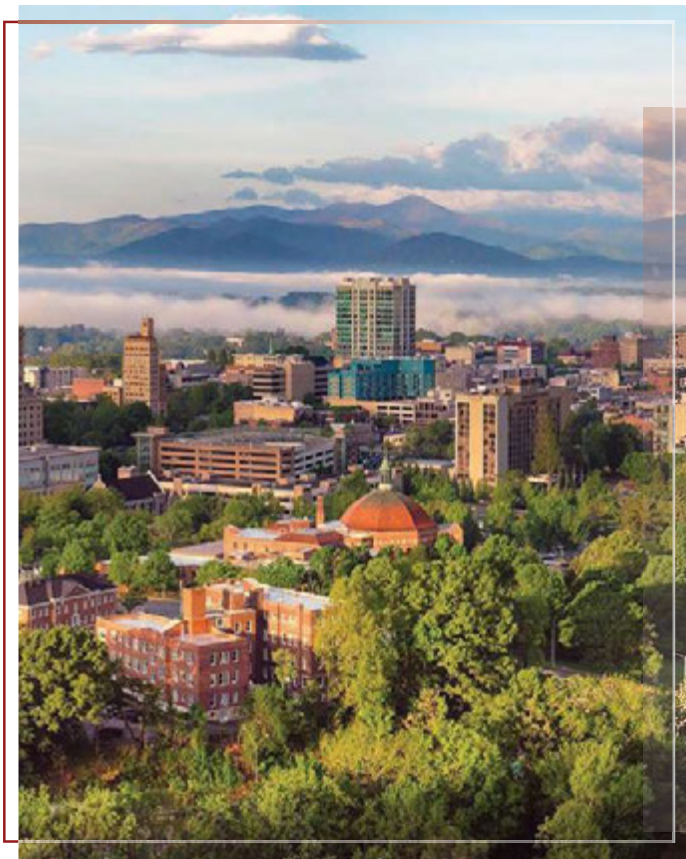
Asheville is where vibrant city streets lead to scenic overlooks, high-elevation trails and sweeping ridgelines in every direction. Whether you settle into a historic hotel, an intimate bed & breakfast or a quiet cabin tucked among the trees, here, where you stay becomes part of the adventure.

Mornings start on the Parkway, while evenings return to Asheville, where Appalachian ingredients inspire culinary collaboration, local brewers pour bold, creative flavors, and galleries and music venues keep downtown streets humming long after sunset. The rhythm is easy to fall into and hard to leave. Slow down, catch your breath and set up your Blue Ridge basecamp in Asheville.

828-258-6109
Exploreasheville.com

Asheville
27 College Pl.
Asheville, NC 28801

 @visitasheville
 @visitasheville



Bent Creek Lodge Exit Milepost 394, continue a half mile south on NC 191. 10 miles from Asheville, enjoy an elegantly rustic lodge, mountain views, comfy beds, hiking trails, fireplace, and breakfast.
bentcreekn.com 877-231-6574

Campfire Lodgings Seven miles from downtown Asheville. Discover mountaintop camping, full-service RV sites, yurts, a cliff house, cabins, and tent sites. Open year-round.
campfirelodgings.com 828-658-8012

Country Inn & Suites-Asheville
Take I-26, exit 33. Located one mile from the Parkway and North Carolina Arboretum. Free continental breakfast and outdoor pool. Close to Asheville Outlets and Biltmore Estate.
radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/country-inn-asheville-outlet-mall-nc 828-670-9000

Courtyard by Marriott-Asheville
Exit Milepost 382, travel 2.5 miles west on US 70, arrive at 1 Buckstone Pl. Home to the Bistro Restaurant, indoor pool, spa, and fitness center.
marriott.com/en-us/hotels/avlcy-courtyard-asheville/overview
828-281-0041

Holiday Inn Biltmore East Exit Parkway onto Hwy. 70 East, one mile on the left. Mountain views, pet-friendly rooms, on-site dining, fitness center, and outdoor pool. Minutes from Biltmore Estate and downtown Asheville.
ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/asheville/avlea/hoteldetail 828-298-5611

Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Asheville Airport Located between Asheville and Hendersonville, only moments from the Asheville Regional Airport.
ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/en/arden/avlar/hoteldetail 828-684-6000

Oakland Cottage Bed & Breakfast
Located at 74 Oakland Rd., near Milepost 388.8. Pet and family friendly. Enjoy a full breakfast and Wi-Fi. One mile to Biltmore Estate, 1.5 miles to vibrant downtown.
oaklandcottage.com 828-994-2627

The Omni Grove Park Inn Exit from I-240 downtown, located at 290 Macon Ave., via Charlotte Street. Historic resort with world-class spa, dining, and golf.
omnihotels.com/hotels/asheville-grove-park 828-252-2711

Pinecrest Bed & Breakfast Located at 249 Cumberland Ave., six miles from Milepost 382. Historic five-room inn, one mile to downtown and with free breakfast.
pinecrestbb.com 828-281-4275

The Pines Cottages Vintage cabins and cottages with modern amenities. Nine miles from Milepost 376, six miles to downtown Asheville.
thepinescottages.com 828-645-9661

Shoji Spa & Lodge Asheville's only Japanese outdoor hot tub spa. The Lodge, Loft, and Studio at Shoji offer unique, luxurious, and cozy accommodations surrounded by nature. Near the Blue Ridge Parkway.
shojispa.com 828-299-0999

Springhill Suites By Marriott Exit at Milepost 382, travel 2.5 miles west on US 70. Arrive at 2 Buckstone Pl. Free breakfast, indoor pool, studio suites. Ask about our Blue Ridge Parkway packages and discount rates.
marriott.com/en-us/hotels/roash-springhill-suites-roanoke/overview 828-253-4666

TownePlace Suites Asheville West
Located a little more than four miles from Parkway Milepost 393.6, near the Asheville Outlets. Enjoy spacious rooms, large parking lot, and indoor pool.
marriott.com/en-us/hotels/avlt-a-towneplace-suites-asheville-outlet-area/overview
828-575-9900

► RECREATION

Anchor Fly Guided fly fishing tours near the Parkway with certified fly-fishing instructors for anglers of all experience levels.
anchorfly.com 828-490-9077

Hickory Nut Gap Farm Nine miles east of the Parkway. Visit animals, pick berries, picnic, purchase meats, and shop the kitchen and butchery.
hickorynutgap.com 828-628-1027




Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Discover what awaits you in the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area. Authentic craft, traditional music, and wondrous natural beauty. Visit today, and make your trip through Appalachia a journey to remember.

828-818-5330
BlueRidgeHeritage.com

31 College Place, Suite 20
Asheville, NC 28801

 @blueridgeheritage




Folk Art Center & Southern Highland Craft Guild

The Folk Art Center is home to the Southern Highland Craft Guild featuring a craft shop of regional crafts, three exhibition galleries, daily craft demonstrations, special events, visitor information, and a bookstore.

828-298-7928
craftguild.org

Folk Art Center
382 Blue Ridge Parkway,
Asheville, NC 28805

 @craftguild

► SHOPPING

Rug & Home Over 20,000 home accessories from local and national artists. Finest rugs from India, China, Pakistan, Persia, Turkey, and Egypt. Shop tapestries, sculptures, fine porcelain, and much more. rugandhome.com 888-881-RUGS

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Preserving and promoting regional communities' traditions. Immerse yourself in the Blue Ridge Craft and Music trails, our bountiful agriculture, Cherokee heritage, and natural beauty. blueridgeheritage.com 828-818-3550

Romantic Asheville Travel Guide

The insider's guide to Asheville and the surrounding mountains, Biltmore Estate, hiking, waterfalls, Parkway, and packages. romanticasheville.com

388.8 US 25 Access Point North five miles to Asheville.

393.6 NC 191 Access Point Six miles north to Asheville. 20 miles south to Hendersonville.

FLETCHER, NC

► LODGING

Clarion Inn Asheville Located at Asheville Airport. Offering a free 24-hour airport shuttle, complimentary hot breakfast, full-service restaurant and bar, Wi-Fi, an indoor pool, and an outdoor pool. choicehotels.com/north-carolina/fletcher/clarion-hotels/nc674 828-684-1213

Fairfield Inn & Suites Asheville Airport

New in 2017, located at 155 Underwood Rd. Near the Biltmore Estate, Chimney Rock Park, and DuPont Recreational Forest. Exercise room, indoor pool, free Wi-Fi, and a business center. marriott.com/hotels/travel/avfff-fairfield-inn-and-suites-asheville-airport-fletcher 828-684-1144

Wingate Asheville Airport Offering an airport shuttle 24/7, hot breakfast, indoor pool, and fitness center. bit.ly/3egQO8g 828-684-4311

► SHOPPING

Foam & Fabrics Outlet Located on US 25, six miles south of Blue Ridge Parkway. Area's largest selection of dress, upholstery, and drapery fabric. Open six days a week. fletcherfoamandfabric.com 828-684-0801

Smiley's Flea Market & Yard Sale

Hosted every weekend at 5360 Hendersonville Rd. Open from daylight to 2 p.m.; 1,000 spaces. Free parking and admission, food vendors, hundreds of sellers, and millions of items. smileysfleamarkets.com 828-684-3532

HENDERSONVILLE & FLAT ROCK AREA, NC

Escape life's hectic pace in Hendersonville. Stroll along Main Street and enjoy attractions, shops, and eateries. Acres of U-pick orchards make us North Carolina's apple capital. Visit nearby waterfalls and scenic vineyards, or grab a sundae

along the Ice Cream Trail. visithendersonvillenc.org 800-828-4244

► ATTRACTIONS

Elijah Mountain Gem Mine The treasure hunt of your life—keep what you find! Mine for rubies, emeralds, and more at 2120 Brevard Rd. Open year-round. elijahmountain.com 828-692-6560

Mountain Fresh Orchards Located at 2887 Chimney Rock Rd. Discover apple orchards, a bakery, the Apple Express train ride, and cider. mtmfreshorchards.com 828-435-0020

POLK COUNTY, NC

First peak of the Blue Ridge. I-26 East, exits 59 and 67. Gorges to explore, hiking, birding, waterfalls, kayaking, scenic drives, and historic small towns Saluda, Tryon, and Columbus. Enjoy horse shows, wineries, inspired shops/galleries, local restaurants, and year-round events. firstpeaknc.com 800-440-7848

405.5 Access Point NC 151 15 miles north to Candler.

408.6 Mount Pisgah Campground with showers, picnic area, trails (May–Nov.). Mount Pisgah was part of the 100,000-acre estate bought in the late 1800s by George W. Vanderbilt. Camping reservations: recreation.gov.

411.8 Wagon Road Gap, Access Point US 276 South 18 miles to Brevard. North eight miles to Cruso, 22 miles to Waynesville.





Brevard & Transylvania County, North Carolina

Brevard is unlike any other place. With over 110,000 acres of public lands, 250 waterfalls, and miles of hiking and biking trails, our corner of the mountains is an outdoor paradise. From Milepost 412, head down Hwy 276 to Looking Glass Falls, only nine miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Continue into Downtown Brevard for vibrant shopping and local restaurants. Or, take Hwy 215 from Milepost 422.4 to Courthouse Falls and the town of Rosman. See Looking Glass Rock in the distance? It's the largest granite monolith east of the Mississippi River. Be sure to give us a wave from the Log Hollow Overlook! That's our backyard, and it's incredible.

1-800-648-4523
explorebrevard.com

Explore Brevard
175 E. Main St.,
Brevard, NC 28712

 @explorebrevardnc

 @explorebrevard



417 Looking Glass Rock So named because it reflects light brilliantly when water and ice are on the rock's granite face.

BREVARD & TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, NC

Welcome to Brevard. Adventure runs deep in our corner of the mountains. Here, you can visit 250 waterfalls, including Looking Glass Falls (9 miles from the Parkway), our walkable downtown, and explore stunning trails. When the day winds down, you'll find a great dinner, local craft beer, and a bluegrass jam waiting for you.

explorebrevard.com 800-648-4523

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Cradle of Forestry Historic Site Enjoy our trails, hands-on exhibits, movie, programs, and gift shop. Café serves lunch. Visit cabins, explore the Adventure Zone. April–Nov. gofindoutdoors.org/cradle-of-forestry 828-877-3130

PARI

(Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute) Former NASA facility, now active center for research and STEM education. Open Sat. and Sun. for campus tours, scenic views, hiking trails, space flight artifacts, meteorites, and minerals. pari.edu 828-862-5554

Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas

Located at 21 E. Main St., only 35 miles from Milepost 411.8 in downtown Brevard.

Free admission to one-of-a-kind artifacts, uniforms, weaponry, and themed exhibits. theveteransmuseum.org 828-884-2141

▶ LODGING

Hampton Inn Brevard 13 miles into the Pisgah Forest. Free hot breakfast, pool, Wi-Fi, and motorcycle park. hilton.com/en/hotels/bvdnchx-hampton-brevard 800-426-7866

Meraki Escape 21 miles from Milepost 423.2, discover adult-only, pet-friendly luxury cabin rentals. merakiescape.com 828-463-7440

Pisgah Inn Located at Milepost 408.6, "Peak of the Parkway." Full-service restaurant, lodging, gift shop, and country store. Panoramic views from our observation deck and all guestrooms. pisgahinn.com 828-235-8228

The Sunset Motel Located downtown at 523 S. Broad St. Enjoy a kitschy remodeled retro motor court and 20 unique rooms. thesunsetmotel.com 828-884-9106

418.8 Graveyard Fields Overlook 2.3-mile loop trail of moderate difficulty to Yellowstone Falls.

422.4 Devil's Courthouse Parking Area Strenuous half-mile hike to "Courthouse" for 360-degree view. Sensitive habitat area. Please stay on the trail.

423.3 Beech Gap, Access Point NC 215 North 24 miles to Waynesville, South 17 miles to Rosman.

431 Haywood-Jackson Overlook 1.5-mile self-guided loop trail of moderate difficulty to the summit of Richland Balsam.

431.4 Richland Balsam Overlook Take in the expansive views of the Nantahala National Forest from the highest point on the Parkway at Richland Balsam Overlook. Sitting at 6,053 feet above sea level, Richland Balsam is the highest point along the Blue Ridge Parkway motor road.

LAKE TOXAWAY, NC

▶ LODGING

Cabins at Seven Foxes Five wildlife-themed, private, fully equipped cabins on seven acres. Pet friendly and open year-round. Free Wi-Fi, fireplaces, porches, and a hot tub. sevenfoxes.com 828-877-6333

The Greystone Inn At Milepost 423, discover our luxurious, romantic, lakefront hideaway. Enjoy golf or a sunset cruise near our pet-friendly, historic inn. Dine in our Lakeside Dining Room or Mansion Bar. greystoneinn.com 828-966-4700

HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC

Find authentic Appalachian culture in Maggie Valley, Waynesville, Lake Junaluska, Canton, and Clyde. Enjoy 46 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Wheels Through Time


Haywood County, North Carolina


Welcome to Haywood County, where the mountains are more than a backdrop—they're a way of life. Nestled within the Great Smoky and Blue Ridge Mountains, our authentic mountain community offers breathtaking beauty and endless adventure. Explore scenic trails, shop in charming downtowns, or simply relax and take in the serene surroundings.

Whether you're seeking outdoor thrills or a peaceful retreat, your perfect getaway awaits. Discover the unique mountain towns of Canton, Clyde, Lake Junaluska, Maggie Valley, and Waynesville, each offering its own special charm. Experience the magic of Haywood County—where nature, adventure, and small-town hospitality come together to create unforgettable memories.

visithaywood.com

Visit Haywood
91 N. Lakeshore Dr.
Lake Junaluska, NC 28745

@visithaywood 

@visithaywood 



Museum, Cataloochee Ski Area, locally crafted beers, U-pick farms, local music, and much more. visitncsmokies.com 800-334-9036

443.1 Balsam Gap Access Point

US 74/23. East seven miles to Waynesville. West 12 miles to Sylva.

451.2 Waterrock Knob Visitor Center & Park Store

Parking overlook. Comfort station. Four-state view including fine panorama of the Great Smoky Mountains. Trail to the Knob with pedestrian overlooks.

455.7 Soco Gap, US 19 Access Point

12 miles west to Cherokee. Five miles east to Maggie Valley.

WAYNESVILLE, NC

▶ ATTRACTIONS

First Tee Mountain Golf Affordable golf packages on some of the most beautiful courses in western North Carolina. Enjoy panoramic views from elevated tees and putting on greens etched around mountain streams and lakes. ftmtngolf.com 803-761-0047

▶ LODGING

Andon-Reid Inn Bed & Breakfast

Only eight miles from the Parkway, our award-winning B&B has great views, offers luxurious rooms, and is close to downtown. andonreidinn.com 828-452-3089

Boyd Mountain Log Cabins Seven restored, antique, hand-hewn log cabins with two to four bedrooms. 10 minutes from the Parkway, off Milepost 443 or 455. One hundred fifty acres with a Christmas tree farm. Open year-round. boydmountain.com 828-926-1575

The Yellow House on Plott Creek Road

Minutes from Milepost 443.1, enjoy A 10-room bed and breakfast that offers luxurious suites and rooms, delightful amenities, a three-course breakfast each morning, baked treats and beverages, as well as two pet-friendly rooms. theyellowhouse.com 828-452-0991. theyellowhouse.com 828-452-0991

MAGGIE VALLEY, NC

US 19, eastern entrance to the Great Smokies. Nestled in the heart of the Smoky Mountains, Maggie Valley offers scenic beauty, outdoor adventure, rich Appalachian heritage, family attractions, cozy lodging and year-round events. Just minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Fall in love with Maggie. Maggie Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, maggievalley.org 828-926-1686

▶ ATTRACTIONS

Dale's Wheels Through Time Located at 62 Vintage Ln. Open Thurs.-Mon. Discover more than 300 rare, historic machines dating back to 1903. Only five miles from the Parkway. wheelsthroughtime.com 828-926-6266

▶ LODGING

Country Cabins Located five miles off the Parkway in Maggie Valley. Peaceful mountain retreat with authentic log cabins, fireplaces, porches, and hot tubs. Open year-round. Pet friendly. countrycabinsmv.com 828-926-0612

Stonebridge RV Resort Family-friendly RV resort in Maggie Valley near the Blue Ridge Parkway, offering creekside sites, cabins, pool, splash pad, and mountain adventures. www.stonebridgecampgrounds.com 828-926-1904

458.2 Heintooga Ridge Rd. Spur to Mile High Overlook. 12 miles to Great Smoky Mountains National Park Campground.

461.9 Big Witch Overlook

469.1 Access Point Parkway & US 441 Two miles south to Cherokee, 29 miles north to Gatlinburg. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is located equally in North Carolina and Tennessee. Oconaluftee Visitor Center near Parkway and US 441.

Newfound Gap Road Continue your journey beyond the end of the Blue Ridge Parkway on Newfound Gap Road, a scenic mountain drive through Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Along the way, enjoy breathtaking overlooks, high-elevation forests, and access to hiking

Miles of Wonder

FROM SCENIC VISTAS TO HIKING MILES,
The Parkway Tells its Story in Unforgettable Numbers.



469 MILES



26 TUNNELS



216 OVERLOOKS



910 ROADSIDE VISTAS



13 PICNIC AREAS



14 VISITOR CENTERS



369 MILES OF HIKING TRAILS



176 BRIDGES



HIGHEST ELEVATION 6,047



600 MILES OF STREAMS

trails before descending into the vibrant mountain town of Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

JACKSON COUNTY, NC

Stretching along 45 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Jackson County is home to such mountain towns as Sylva and Dillsboro, each with its own charm and about 20 minutes from the Parkway. Hike scenic trails, chase waterfalls, enjoy local dining and shops, or unwind at outdoor concerts.

discoverjacksonnc.com
800-962-1911

SYLVA & DILLSBORO, NC

► LODGING

Moonshine Creek Campground Cool, secluded, back-to-nature camping on beautiful rambling creek. Full hookup sites and cabins, campfires, and hot showers. Located off US 74/23, turn at Balsam Highway sign.

moonshinecreek.com
828-586-6666

► SHOPPING

Dogwood Crafters A showcase of handmade arts and crafts since 1976. Located at 90 Webster St. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. daily.

dogwoodcrafters.com
828-586-2248

BILL RUSS



DUPONT STATE RECREATIONAL FOREST

Located in Henderson and Transylvania counties between the towns of **Hendersonville** and **Brevard**, **DuPont State Recreational Forest** contains 10,400 spectacularly beautiful acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina. Elevations range from 2,240 feet at Cascade Lake to 3,620 feet at the peak of Stone Mountain. The Little River runs through the forest, with four major waterfalls along its course. The forest also contains five lakes, including the 99-acre Lake Julia, the largest of the lakes. Hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians share the forest's 80-plus miles of roads and trails that pass through habitats that include upland oak forests, cove forests, granite domes, riparian areas, and mountain bogs. The forest is open daily from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

828-877-6527 • dupontstaterекреationalforest.com


Jackson County, North Carolina


Stretching along 45 miles of the stunning Blue Ridge Parkway, Jackson County is home to the charming mountain towns of Sylva, Dillsboro, Cashiers, and Cherokee. Explore 30+ waterfalls, soak in the peace of nature along two Certified Forest Therapy Trails, and cast a line in the Tuckasegee River, home of the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail.

Try authentic Appalachian flavors at elevated curated restaurants, enjoy live music at local breweries, visit historic attractions like the Appalachian Women's Museum, or shop for one-of-a-kind antiques on Main Street Sylva. Enjoy outdoor adventures, scenic stays, and mountain fun. Make Jackson County the peak moment of your Parkway trip.

discoverjacksonnc.com

773 W. Main Street
 Sylva, NC 28779

@discoverjacksonnc 

@discoverjacksonnc 



A Perfect Day in the Great Smokies Region

Near Great Smoky Mountains

National Park & Tennessee



Oconaluftee indian village

DAVID MCKENZIE



Bull Elk



Kuwohi

Great Smokies Region

From misty mountain peaks to vibrant cultural heritage, the Smoky Mountain region offers a captivating blend of natural beauty, adventure, and rich history waiting to be explored.

Start your Smoky Mountain adventure in **Cherokee**, the vibrant southern gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway and home to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Immerse yourself in history at the **Oconaluftee Indian Village**, where you can experience 18th-century life through authentic stickball games, traditional dance performances, and exciting war reenactments.

Explore Maggie Valley, a charming town nestled in the heart of the Smokies, offering plenty of opportunity for outdoor recreation. Dillsboro, located on the banks of the Tuckasegee River, provides breathtaking views of the mountains, rivers, and waterfalls that flow throughout the region.

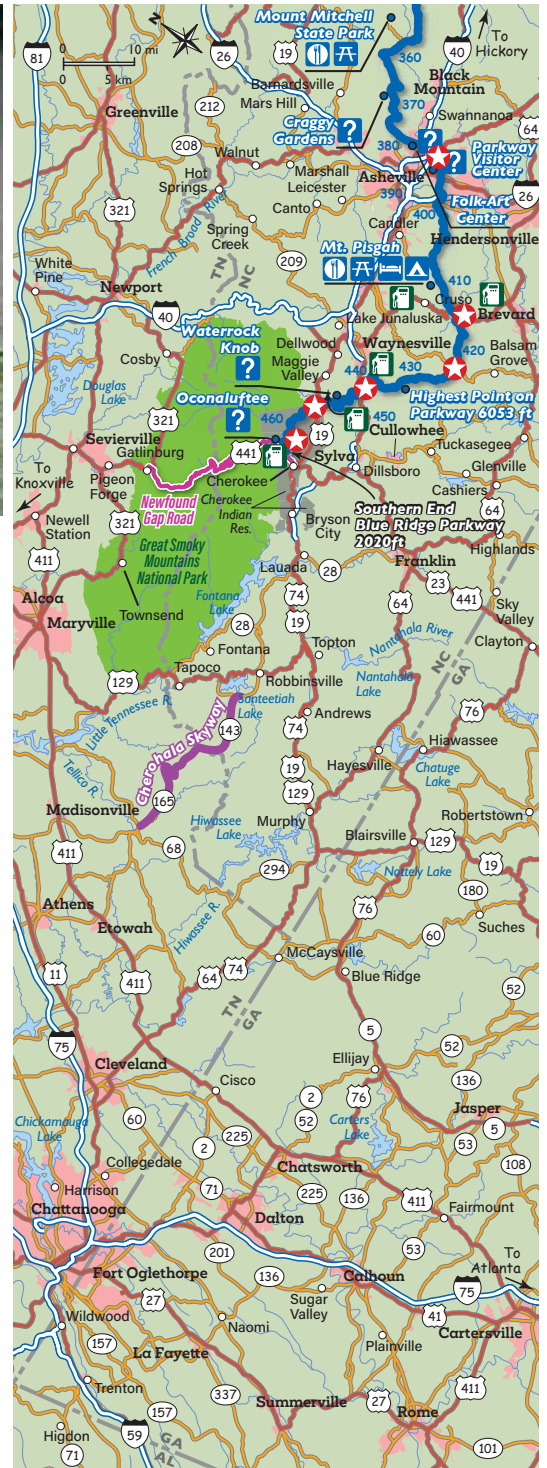
Head to **Franklin**, a hidden gem for nature lovers. Explore local gem mines and try your luck panning for rubies and sparkling stones. Continue on to **Nantahala** and take in the beauty of cascading waterfalls, scenic views, and hundreds of miles of rivers, streams, and lakes.

Stop in **Bryson City**, where the **Great Smoky Mountains Railroad** offers a round-trip scenic journey through lush forests and breathtaking mountain vistas. It's an unforgettable way to experience the natural beauty of the Smoky Mountains in comfort.

Drive **Newfound Gap Road** for a truly spectacular ride through the Smokies. At an elevation of 5,046 feet, this North Carolina Scenic Byway offers sweeping views of towering peaks, dense forests, and dramatic landscapes, including the transition from hardwood groves to evergreen spruce-fir forests.

Afterward, head to **Gatlinburg**, Tennessee, where adventure calls at **Ober Mountain**. Ride the Aerial Tramway to the mountaintop for sweeping views and enjoy winter fun year-round, with skiing, snowboarding, tubing, and ice-skating.

Cap off your journey in **Pigeon Forge**, home to the iconic Dollywood theme park, a must-see for fans of Dolly Parton. Just a short drive away is **Sevierville**, Dolly's hometown, where you can explore more attractions, shop, and experience the area's Southern charm.



MAP KEY			
	Lodging		Fuel
	Food		Camping
	Picnic Area		Info
	Access Point		

Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Spanning the border between North Carolina and Tennessee, **Great Smoky Mountains National Park** is a crown jewel of the Appalachian Mountains, celebrated for its diverse ecosystems, rich history, and sweeping mountain vistas. Established in 1934, this park preserves more than 522,000 acres and is a sanctuary for diverse wildlife and lush, ancient forests. Often shrouded in the “smoke” of morning mist, the park offers a magical landscape that has inspired millions of visitors each year.

With more than 800 miles of trails, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is a paradise for hikers and nature lovers. Trails range from gentle nature walks to challenging backcountry routes.

Newfound Gap Road offers breathtaking mountain views and crosses into high-altitude spruce-fir forests, a rarity in the South. Newfound Gap Road provides access to **Kuwohi (formerly Clingmans Dome)**, the park’s highest peak at 6,643 feet. A short trail leads to a viewing tower offering 360-degree panoramas of the Smokies. The road also passes historic sites like **Mingus Mill**, an 1886 grist mill that stands as a reminder of early mountain life, and the **Rockefeller Memorial**, commemorating the Rockefeller family’s contributions to the park.

Beyond the scenery, the Smokies hold centuries of human history. The park preserves historic log cabins, grist mills, and churches from early settler communities, which can be explored in areas like **Cades Cove** and **Cataloochee Valley**. These historic sites offer windows into Appalachian life during the 1800s.

Whether you’re here to hike, watch wildlife, or explore history, the Great Smoky Mountains promise an unforgettable experience. Embrace the peace of the misty mountains, and discover why the Smokies are one of America’s most beloved natural treasures.



Wayah Bald Lookout Tower
DAVID MCKENZIE

CHEROKEE, NC

Home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Museums, cultural and family attractions, lodging, dining, and shops. Experience the outdoor drama "Unto These Hills," and Harrah's Cherokee Casino. Find more information at the downtown visitor center.

visitchokeenc.com 800-438-1601

► ATTRACTIONS

Oconaluftee Indian Village Oconaluftee Indian Village poses the question, "Is it actually Cherokee history if it's still happening?" Today, you can transport yourself back to an 18th-century village full of authentic stickball demonstrations, dances, staged war reenactments, and more.

visitchokeenc.com 866-554-4557

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc.

Explore the largest selection of authentic Cherokee weaponry, basketry, beadwork, finger-weaving, and wood and stone carving. quallaartsandcrafts.org

828-497-3103

KEY: 129.6 - Parkway milepost numbers

Unto These Hills Where Cherokee history comes alive. This outdoor drama is the Cherokee story, as portrayed by the Cherokee themselves, nightly from June 1 to Aug. 16, except Sun. Performed in the Mountainside Theatre.

visitchokeenc.com

866-554-4557

► LODGING

Cherokee Grand Hotel

Located at 196 Paint Town Rd., Cherokee, near the southern gateway of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. All rooms at the entrance of the casino are new.

cherokeegrandhotel.com

828-497-0055

Fairfield Inn & Suites-Cherokee

Featuring 100 rooms and suites across from Harrah's Casino on US 19 North. Enjoy continental breakfast, an indoor pool, and meeting space.

marriott.com/hotels/travel/avlck-fairfield-inn-and-suites-chokeenc

828-497-0400

FRANKLIN & MACON COUNTY, NC

US 23, 441, and 64 and NC 28. Gem and ruby mines. Scenic waterfalls. For more information on accommodations and attractions, write or call the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, 98 Hyatt Rd., Franklin, NC 28734. franklinchamber.com 828-524-3161

► LODGING

Fire Mountain Inn & Cabins Enjoy our pet-friendly contemporary inn, private tree houses, cabins with fireplaces, hot tubs, and spectacular views. firemt.com

800-775-4446

A Sapphire Inn Located at 761 E. Main St. Easy access to Appalachian and Bartram trails, downtown, restaurants, and shops. sapphireinnfranklin.com 828-524-4406

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Visit Smokies The region boasts 300+ travel attractions, businesses, and national treasures, including Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherokee Skyway, and Nantahala and Pisgah national forests.

visitsmokies.org 828-369-9606

BRYSON CITY & SWAIN COUNTY, NC

A big vacation in a small town! Enjoy pristine mountain beauty, whitewater rafting, Fontana Lake, trout fishing, horseback riding, hiking, a scenic train ride, shopping, or just relaxing.

Rich Cherokee and Southern Appalachian history. Variety of lodging options.

explorebrysoncity.com 828-488-7857

► ATTRACTIONS

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad Located 15 miles from Milepost 469.1. Round-trip scenic excursions take you from a historic depot through the beautiful countryside. Variety of excursions, special-event trains, and dining.

gsmr.com 800-872-4681

► LODGING

Calhoun House Inn & Suites Large, four-room suites in a historic inn with modern amenities; just one block to downtown shops, restaurants, and GSMR train depot. Virtual tours available online. calhounhouse.com

828-788-0505

► RECREATION

Nantahala Outdoor Center Located at the intersection of the Appalachian Trail and the Nantahala River. A mecca for outdoor enthusiasts, NOC's 500-acre campus boasts plenty of exciting adventures. noc.com

800-232-7238

VISITMONROETNC.COM



Cherochala Skyway

CHEROHALA SKYWAY NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY

Traversing southeast Tennessee and southwest North Carolina, the **Cherochala Skyway** was opened and dedicated in 1996. Designated a National Scenic Byway, the road crosses through the **Cherokee National Forest** in Tennessee and the **Nantahala National Forest** in North Carolina. The roughly 40-mile skyway connects **Tellico Plains**, Tennessee, with **Robbinsville**, North Carolina. The wide, paved two-lane road ranges in elevations from 900 feet above sea level at the Tellico River in Tennessee to more than 5,400 feet above sea level at Haw Knob at the Tennessee–North Carolina state line. The **Cherochala Skyway Visitor Center** in Tellico Plains is a "must stop" before starting up the Skyway. Stop by for free maps, Skyway driving conditions, and local area souvenirs and gifts.

GATLINBURG, TN

The mountains are calling, and there's no better time to go to Gatlinburg. It's the kind of place that brings people together and where memories are made around every corner. Come see why. gatlinburg.com 800-766-5396

► ATTRACTIONS

Gatlinburg SkyPark Located at 765 Parkway, 35 miles from Milepost 469. Enjoy views of the Smoky Mountains and walk the SkyBridge, the longest pedestrian cable bridge in North America, measuring 680 feet.
gatlinburgskypark.com 865-436-4307

Ober Mountain Adventure Park & Ski Area Ride the 120-passenger Aerial Tramway to indoor ice-skating, Alpine Slide, scenic chairlift, Wildlife Encounter, Ski Mountain Coaster, winter skiing, dining, shopping, and more.
obergatlinburg.com 865-436-5423

► LODGING

Gatlinburg Timeshare Rentals We can be found at a variety of popular resorts, such as Laurel Point Resort and the Mountainloft Resort, at 70% off retail price.
sellmytimesharenow.com/timeshare/Gatlinburg/city/rent-timeshare 877-815-4227

River Edge Inn Located at 665 River Rd. Enjoy a clean, dog-friendly room with a fireplace, Keurig, fridge, and microwave. We are located within walking distance to shopping and dining.
myriveredgeinn.com 865-436-9292

► VISITOR INFORMATION

Smokies Life Operating in national park visitor centers in and around Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Individual and business memberships available.
smokieslife.org
865-436-7318

PIGEON FORGE, TN

Variety of music, shopping, attractions, restaurants, and accommodations, plus Dollywood Theme Park and the Great Smoky Mountains.
mypigeonforge.com
800-251-9100

► LODGING

The Ramsey Hotel Located at 3230 Parkway, our boutique Four-star hotel has Three-star prices. Enjoy a free hot breakfast buffet, 24-hour indoor pool, 208 interior guestrooms, and convention center.
myramseyhotel.com 865-428-2700

SEVIERVILLE, TN

Dolly's hometown, where shopping, entertainment, attractions, accommodations, and mountain history come together to create an atmosphere that can't be found anywhere else in the Smokies.
visitsevierville.com 888-738-4378

TOWNSEND, TN

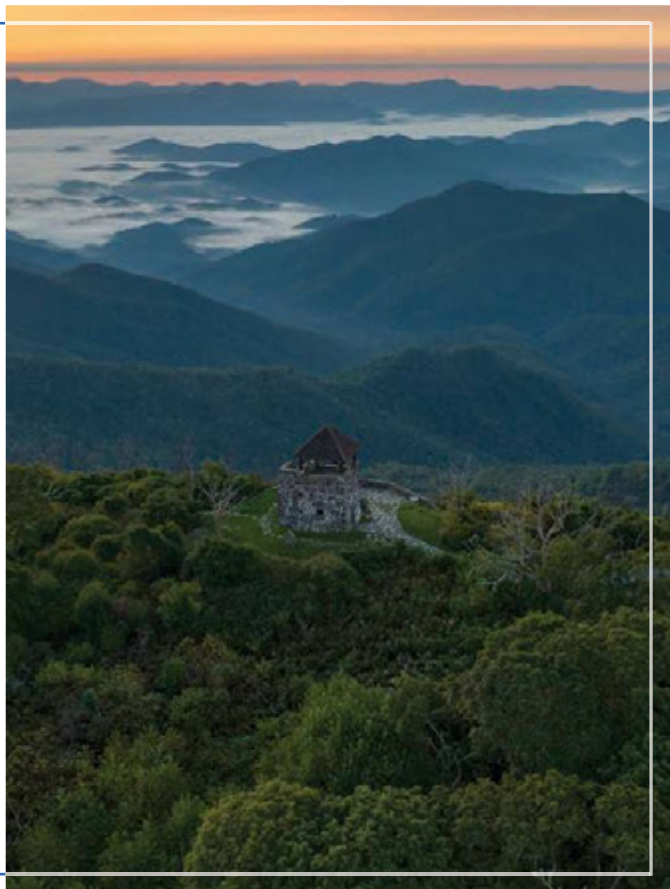
► ATTRACTIONS

Tuckaleechee Caverns Located 25 miles west of Gatlinburg at US 321 and TN 73, we are one of the greatest natural attractions of the Great Smokies, rated a 5-Diamond attraction by AAA. Open March 15–Nov. 15.
tuckaleecheecaverns.com 865-448-2274

MARYVILLE, TN

► RECREATION

Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson We are the rider's destination. Our full-service dealership is open seven days a week. Find information about events and concerts online. smh-d.com 865-977-1669



Franklin, Nantahala & Macon County, North Carolina

Franklin and Nantahala are towns born from gem mining and agriculture. They have transformed from small rural areas to thriving outdoor adventure towns, inviting people of all ages to set out and explore the beauty of the Nantahala National Forest.

Visit the waterfalls of the Cullasaja River and Nantahala Gorges. We are known for our beautiful waterfalls, scenic views, and hundreds of miles of rivers, streams, and lakes. Once known as the "Gem Capitol of the World," discover active gem mines where you can sit down with a bucket of dirt and sift for precious gems and minerals that are abundant to this day. Discover Franklin and Nantahala, your gateway to adventure!

800-336-7829
exploringwnc.com

Franklin & Nantahala
98 Hyatt Rd.
Franklin, NC 28734

 @visitfranklinnc

 @visitnantahalanc





"Unto These Hills" Cherokee, NC.

THE ENDURING SPIRIT OF THE CHEROKEE

Long before the Blue Ridge Parkway welcomed travelers to the **Great Smoky Mountains**, this region was part of the ancestral homeland of the Cherokee people, known as the Aniyvwiyaʔi, or "Principal People." Today, the **Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians** carries forward a vibrant culture rooted in tradition and a deep connection to the mountains of western North Carolina.

In the 1830s, many Cherokee were forced west along the Trail of Tears, yet some remained, maintaining ties to their homeland that endure today. Their descendants established what is now known as the **Qualla Boundary**, where Cherokee culture continues to thrive.

In and around Cherokee, this story is reflected in places you can visit. **The Museum of the Cherokee People** shares a tribally grounded perspective on Cherokee history, from ancient origins to the present. Nearby, **Unto These Hills** brings these experiences to life, while **Oconaluftee Indian Village** highlights traditional crafts and daily practices.

Cherokee culture is not only preserved but practiced. Artists and educators pass down language, beliefs, and traditions, keeping generations connected. Surrounded by the beauty of the Smokies, this living heritage continues to inspire visitors today.

Bryson City & Swain County, North Carolina

Adventure begins in Bryson City, where five entrances lead you into Great Smoky Mountains National Park and endless outdoor exploration. Stroll a charming downtown filled with craft breweries, local eateries, unique shops, and local art galleries before heading into the mountains for scenic waterfalls, uncrowded hiking trails, and incredible wildlife viewing.

Paddle or fish on Fontana Lake, raft the exciting rapids of the Nantahala River, or float along peaceful Deep Creek. Ride the scenic Great Smoky Mountains Railroad, explore the Blue Ridge Parkway, or enjoy seasonal farm fun at Darnell Farms with strawberry picking, pumpkin patches, and family events.

828-488-7857
explorebrysoncity.com

Visitor Center in the Historic Courthouse
 2 Everett St.
 Bryson City, NC 28713




@brysoncity

@brysoncitynorthcarolina



Blue Ridge Parkway

The 469-mile Blue Ridge Parkway embraces the southern—and highest—portion of the Appalachian mountain range. Hugging the ridges between the Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains national parks, the Parkway is designed especially for leisurely enjoyment of the scenery along the way—a high road of adventure intended for ride-awhile, stop-awhile exploration. Numerous overlooks provide parking areas from which to enjoy the views.

You may enter or leave the Blue Ridge Parkway at any of the US or state highway intersections. These intersecting roads lead to scores of towns, mountain resorts, and scenic areas close to the Parkway, where accommodations, meals, and service stations are available. The  symbol on the maps within the regional sections of this guide will help you easily identify these Blue Ridge Parkway entrances/exits.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is open 365 days a year, weather permitting. Sometimes road repair is undertaken in the winter months. The Parkway is not plowed nor salted in the winter, so after snow or ice events, portions may be closed until the weather warms and the roadway becomes safe for travel again. Visit nps.gov/blri for current road conditions.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION




LEGEND


Blue Ridge Parkway Facilities



Milepost with gas nearby



 [brp_association](#)

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