

Welcome to the Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina! Included on the map are venues featured in the Blue Ridge Music Trails guidebook and a sampling of major festivals and other locations dedicated to presenting the music.

The venues are alphabetized in a seasonal at-a-glance list. Whether you can spend a week or a weekend, we invite you to sing, dance and celebrate with us.

As you begin your journey, keep in mind that even though all the events listed occur on a regular basis, it is always best to verify the information before heading out. For the most up-to-date information on venues and events, please visit BlueRidgeMusicNC.com.

Happy Trails!



Year-round music venues

- 1 Alleghany Jubilee Tuesdays & Saturdays
2 The Barn Tuesdays, 2nd & 4th Saturdays
3 Bluegrass Jam at Zuma Coffee Thursdays nights
4 City's Corner Weekly Jam Sessions Fridays
5 Don Gibson Theatre 3rd Saturdays & Sundays
6 Earl C. Campbell Folk School Concert Series Fridays, 1st & 3rd Saturdays
7 Jimmie's Pick n Trim Saturdays
8 Lake Toway Community Center Fridays
9 Jones House, 604 West King St., Boone, NC 828-262-4576
10 220 County Health Ln., Andrews, NC 828-391-6878
11 John C. Campbell Folk School Concert Series Fridays, 1st & 3rd Saturdays
12 Lake Toway Community Center Fridays
13 Marion Depot Bluegrass Thursdays
14 Railroad St., Marion, NC 828-652-2215
15 Marshall Railroad Depot Fridays
16 The Old Railroad Depot, Main Street, Marshall, NC 828-206-2332
17 O'Henry's Restaurant Fridays & Saturdays
18 10225 NC 67 Hwy., East Bend, NC 336-659-6933
19 Old Fort Afternoon Jams Sundays
20 Mountain Gateway Museum 828-668-9259
21 Old Time Fiddlers' Convention Easter Weekend
22 Union Grove, NC 704-539-5433
23 Surry Old Time Fiddlers Convention March
24 Surry Community College
25 630 S Main St., Dobson, NC 336-441-8390

Spring music venues

- 1 Fading Voices Festival and the Snowbird Mountain Singing
2 Fiddlers and Fiddle Festival April, 3rd Saturday
3 Warren Wilson College
4 MerleFest April, last Thursday - Sunday
5 1328 S Collegiate Dr., Wilkesboro, NC 800-343-7857
6 Old Time Fiddlers' Convention Easter Weekend
7 Yonahoy Farms Family Campground
8 Surry Old Time Fiddlers Convention March
9 630 S Main St., Dobson, NC 336-441-8390
10 Christmas in July July, 1st Saturday
11 Clear Mountain View Music Festival August
12 Elliott Family Farms, 356 London Rd., Lenoir, NC 704-472-9667

Summer music venues

- 1 Alleghany County Fiddlers' Convention July, 3rd weekend
2 Ashe County Bluegrass & Old Time Fiddlers Convention August
3 527 Ashe Park Rd., Jefferson, NC 336-846-9550
4 Bluegrass in Cherokee Festival June, 2nd weekend
5 1553 Wolfetown Rd., Cherokee, NC 877-782-2765
6 Bluff Mountain Music Festival June, 2nd & Saturday
7 Hot Springs Spa & Resort, 315 Bridge St., Hot Springs, NC 828-649-1301
8 Canton Pickin' in the Park June - September
9 77 South Parkland St., Canton, NC 828-66-46-3411
10 Governor Murchie Park, 422 Church St., Eden, NC 336-623-1043
11 Surry Old Time Fiddlers Convention March
12 Christmas in July July, 1st Saturday
13 Clear Mountain View Music Festival August
14 Elliott Family Farms, 356 London Rd., Lenoir, NC 704-472-9667

Summer-fall music venues

- 1 Cowan Bog Day July, 1st Saturday
2 Fines Creek Bluegrass Jam August, 2nd weekend
3 Heritage Day and Kick Opening at Block Family Pottery
4 Monday Night Street Dance July - August
5 Mountain Dance and Folk Festival August, 1st weekend, Friday & Saturday
6 Mount Airy Bluegrass and Old-Time Fiddlers Convention August, 1st weekend, Friday & Saturday
7 Mountain View Music Festival August, 1st weekend, Friday & Saturday
8 Music and Dance at the Stampin' Ground August, 1st weekend, Friday & Saturday
9 Mountain Street Dance July - August
10 Haywood County Courthouse
11 Music Fest in Sugar Grove July, 2nd weekend, Friday & Saturday
12 Cove Creek School
13 North Carolina State Bluegrass Festival
14 Tom Johnson's Camping Center
15 185 US 70 West, Marion, NC 706-864-2203
16 Nunn Brothers Bluegrass Festival July, last weekend
17 Old Bole Road Music Festival August
18 Lansing Cheaper Trail Park
19 Pickin' on the Square May - early August, Saturdays
20 On the Square, downtown, Franklin, NC 828-524-2516
21 Red, White and Bluegrass Festival June 30 - July 4
22 Catwaba Meadows Park
23 Catwaba Meadows Dr., Morganton, NC 828-439-1866
24 Rattlesnake Music Festival June, Saturday after Father's Day weekend
25 Town Center, 6 South Main St., Burnsville, NC 828-682-9654
26 Singing on the Mountain at MacRae Meadows June, 4th Saturday
27 Grandfather Mountain
28 Blowing Rock Hwy., Linville, NC 800-468-7325
29 Hermitage Weekend at the Folk Art Center August
30 Miletage 382 Blue Ridge Pkwy., Asheville, NC 828-298-7928

Fall-spring music venues

- 1 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
2 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
3 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
4 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
5 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
6 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
7 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
8 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
9 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
10 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
11 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
12 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
13 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
14 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
15 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
16 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
17 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
18 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
19 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School
20 Bluegrass at the Old Rock School

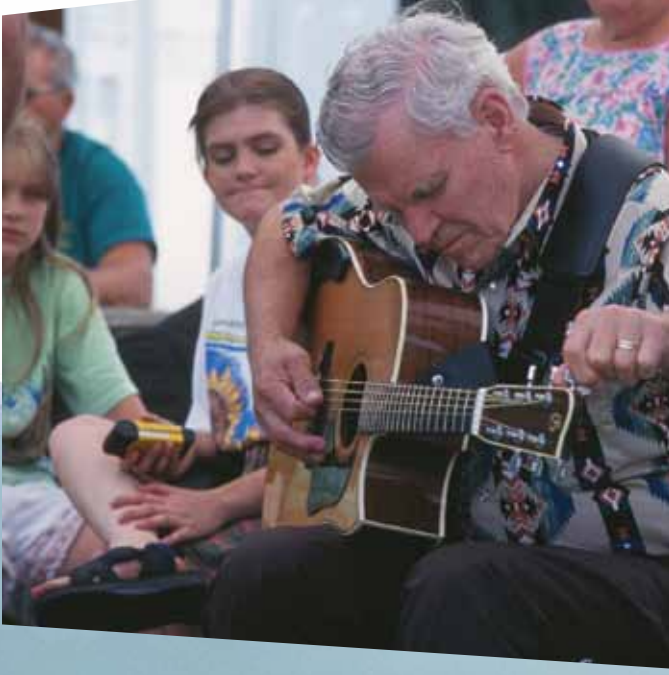
Winter music venues

- 1 Bluegrass First Class February
2 Christian Harmony Singing at Saint John's Church
3 Crown Plaza Resort, Asheville, NC 828-275-6650
4 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
5 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
6 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
7 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
8 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
9 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
10 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
11 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
12 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
13 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
14 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
15 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
16 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
17 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
18 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
19 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September
20 Mountain Songs Festival mid-September



Jam Protocol

Jam sessions in Western North Carolina are friendly events where people gather to play and listen to traditional music in an informal setting. The seating or standing arrangement of the participants varies from place to place. There is a general custom that the most experienced musicians will occupy the most central positions of the group. Typically, the assembled players at jam sessions form a circle, and the veteran musicians sit or stand right in the middle of the circle. Other musicians often place themselves closer to or more distant from the center in accordance with their particular skill levels. There are no hard-and-fast rules. Visitors are almost always welcome to participate, but every jam is different, so musicians who have an interest in joining in should be observant and respectful of local protocol. Visit BlueRidgeMusicNC.com for more jam protocols.



Along the Music Trails

The Blue Ridge Music Trails are set in the majestic landscape of the North Carolina mountains and foothills, where you will find an abundance of great experiences:
• Scenic drives with mountain views
• Historic small towns
• Invigorating hikes and nature walks
• Hidden waterfalls
• Handmade crafts
• Bustling farmers' markets
• Pit-cooked barbecue
• Local beers and wines

As you travel the Music Trails, you'll also encounter a variety of music styles, including:
• the lonesome strains of old-time fiddling
• the fiery rhythms of bluegrass music
• the stately charm of blues guitar, Piedmont style
• the unadorned power of shaped-note singing
• and the quiet intensity of age-old ballads

Western North Carolina Distinctions in Traditional Music

Western North Carolina has many distinctions in traditional music that set it apart, and here's a sample:
• No other state has had more influence on the development of the banjo in America: Earl Scruggs, Charlie Poole and Snuffy Jenkins, among many, created modern banjo styles.
• The fiddle and banjo ensemble tradition in Surry County's Round Peak community is emulated by musicians around the world.
• Flat-footing and clogging in Western N.C. are recognized as the most highly-developed dance traditions in the country. Team square dancing originated in Haywood County in the 1930s.
• Asheville's Mountain Dance and Folk Festival is the oldest continuous folk festival in the United States.
• WPAQ AM 740 in Mount Airy is the oldest live radio show that continues to program regional music from the Blue Ridge, first signing on in 1948.
• MerleFest is one of the nation's largest and most influential "Americana" music events. It was founded in 1988 by Doc Watson in memory of his son Merle.



Western North Carolina is known internationally as a region rich in traditional old-time stringband music, ballad singing and bluegrass, and abounds in opportunities to experience this authentic artistry in person.

Traditional music can be heard throughout the region in a range of settings, from hometown oprys and informal jam sessions to concert stages. Festivals and old-time music conventions, some dating back almost a century, are reliable opportunities for enjoying traditional music and dance in family-friendly settings.

The Blue Ridge Music Trails is a project of the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership to preserve and promote traditional music in Western North Carolina. Visit BlueRidgeMusicNC.com for more information on the region's music, venues, events, and artists.



BlueRidgeMusicNC.com





Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center

Located in Asheville at Blue Ridge Parkway milepost 384, the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center offers a high definition movie, exhibits, information desks, and a gift shop where you can purchase the *Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina* guidebook. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. 828-298-5330.

The 25 westernmost counties of the state and the Cherokee Qualla Boundary were designated the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area by Congress in 2003 in recognition of the region's natural splendor and living traditions of music, craft, agriculture, and Cherokee culture.

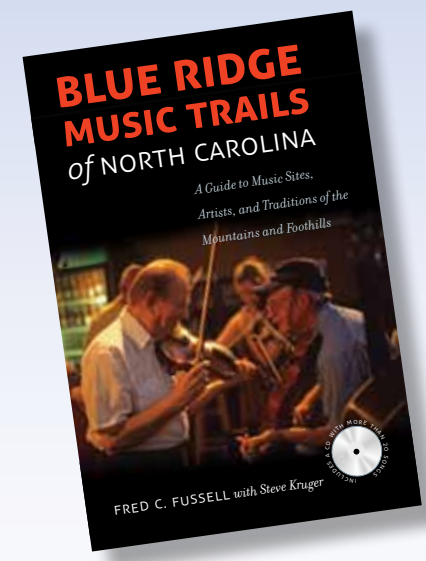


Traditional Artist Directory

The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area's online Traditional Artist Directory is a guide to many of the finest traditional craft artisans, musicians, dancers and storytellers in the North Carolina mountains and foothills. The directory contains profiles for more than 500 artists and groups. The directory is a free resource to find an artist for a performance; plan a trip to an artist's studio or music event; and learn more about the region's traditional artists and heritage. Visit the Traditional Artist Directory online at: BlueRidgeHeritage.com/traditional-artist-directory



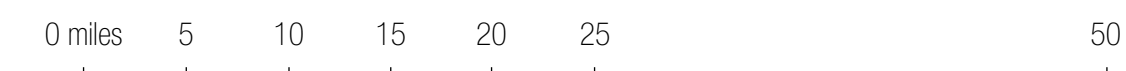
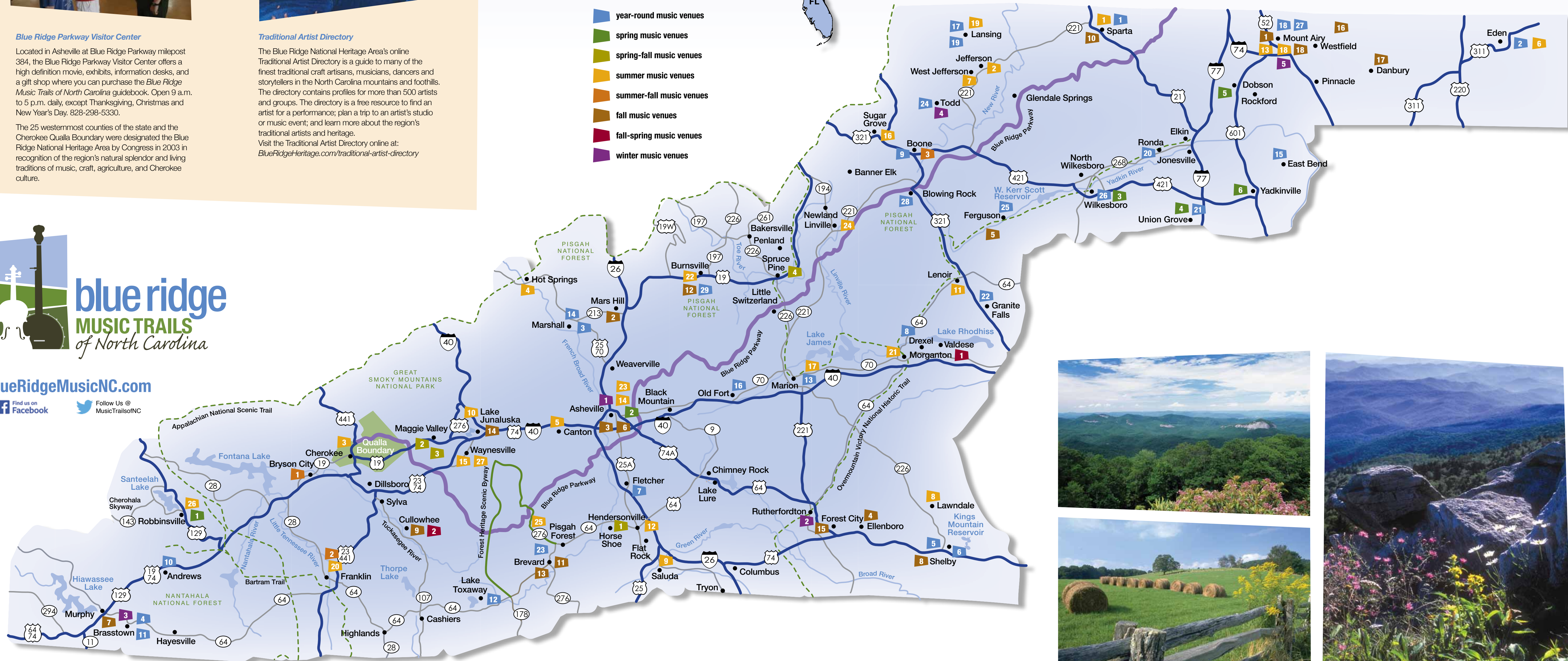
- year-round music venues
- spring music venues
- spring-fall music venues
- summer music venues
- summer-fall music venues
- fall music venues
- fall-spring music venues
- winter music venues



Buy the Blue Ridge Music Trails guidebook
Published in association with UNC Press, the N.C. Arts Council and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Partnership, *Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina* by folklorist Fred C. Fussell is an insider's guide to the great music and dance traditions of the mountains and foothills. It also features a 26 music track CD. Visit BlueRidgeMusicNC.com to purchase.



BlueRidgeMusicNC.com
Find us on Facebook | Follow Us @ MusicTrailsNC



All locations on map are approximate. Please call ahead to confirm directions, dates and hours of events.