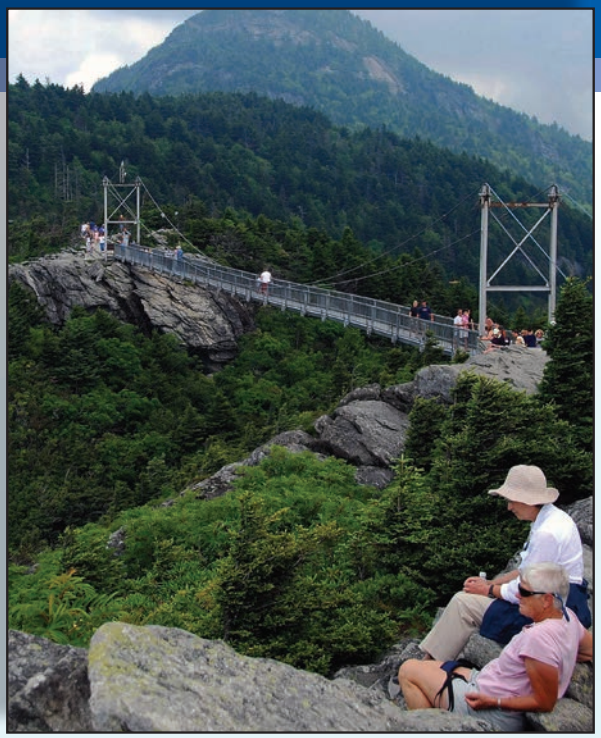
66TH Edition

Blue Ridge Parkway

www.blueridgeparkway.org

DIRECTORY & TRAVEL PLANNER

Includes THE PARKWAY MILEPOST



Grandfather Mountain
Linville, NC
Exit at Milepost 305.1



Roanoke Star and Overlook
Roanoke, VA
Exit at Milepost 120



Biltmore
Asheville, NC
Exit at Milepost 388.8

Official Publication of the Blue Ridge Parkway Association



Chimney Rock at
Chimney Rock State Park

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

The 66th Edition

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BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.
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Layout/Design: Imagewerks Productions: Arden, NC

This free Directory & Travel Planner is published by the 500+ member Blue Ridge Parkway Association to help you more fully enjoy your Parkway area vacation.Members representing attractions, outdoor recreation, accommodations, restaurants, shops, and a variety of other services essential to the traveler are included in this publication.

PROMOTING TOURISM FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS

When you visit their place of business, please let them know you found them in the Blue Ridge Parkway Directory & Travel Planner. This will help us ensure the availability of another Directory & Travel Planner for your next visit to the Parkway area.

As an official partner agency of the Blue Ridge Parkway - National Park Service, our association is committed to providing trustworthy visitor information across print, web and mobile platforms in cooperation with an active membership of regional travel partners, local businesses and attractions along the scenic corridor of the Shenandoah National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the tri-state region of Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee.

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Roanoke Star photo credit John Henley



Superintendent's MESSAGE

As I settle into the privilege of serving my second full season as the Parkway superintendent, I'm reminded of a number of things that apply to this special place and to all parks and public lands. I know they are true because I see them on a regular basis when I'm out interacting with visitors, park staff, or spending time in the many communities throughout the Parkway corridor. These may be things that you have realized or thought of yourself, or they may be new ideas, especially if you are new to the Parkway.

First, I'm reminded of the incredible opportunities the Parkway offers all of us to explore, to recreate, and in many ways, to find renewal. One of the most enjoyable parts of my job is the occasions I have to talk to visitors. And during the course of these last two years, at overlooks, on trails, or at music concerts, I have met visitors who have a destination in mind. They know before they leave home which trail, which district, which campground, or which community they are going to in order to find that renewal or recreational opportunity. On the other hand, many visitors I engage with discover that place after they arrive. These are the true "explorers" of the Parkway who happen upon a view or a an overlook that has just the right elements – maybe the sun's shadow, a rainbow, the crisp and clear atmosphere, or the opportunity to see a soaring hawk or a new born fawn. This kind of renewal takes time and some attention to detail, so don't be in a hurry when traveling the Parkway.

Secondly, I have long been aware of the unsurpassed value of the educational opportunities that the Parkway offers to visitors of all ages – the students – who do another kind of exploration among the cultural and natural history stories that are protected within the Parkway corridor. These educational opportunities outside of the traditional classroom may happen during a conversation with one of our staff members, participating in a demonstration of traditional crafts at a place like Brinegar Cabin, or cuddling up at the evening campfire with an Appalachian novel purchased in one of our visitor centers. Education and learning are an exciting and sometimes fun by-product of your visit to places like the Parkway.

Finally, I am thrilled to be a part of protecting parks and doing my part in conveying the value and importance of such places to our nation and to the generations yet born. I think of the words of Margaret Murie that "surely America is not so poor that it can't afford such places as national parks, nor so rich that it can do without them." The value of this National Park site was brought home to us in a vivid way this past year when we found that the U.S. Mint would include the Blue Ridge Parkway on its 2015 America the Beautiful quarter series. The graceful curves, the beautiful stonework, distant vistas, and a representative example of the flora and fauna of the region have come together in a beautifully designed coin that will be introduced and put into circulation this year.

These are just three of the many things I think about and am reminded of as I spend time on the Blue Ridge Parkway. I trust that each one of you will have a safe and leisurely visit, as we all find ways to celebrate and appreciate "America's Favorite Drive."



Mark H. Woods, Superintendent
Blue Ridge Parkway

OUR SYMBOL



The National Park Service arrowhead was authorized as the agency's official emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. Created in 1949 by Aubrey V. Neasham, a Park Service historian, the insignia was intended to represent several aspects of the mission of the National Park Service: Its shape and earth-brown background embody our nation's cultural heritage exemplified in the parks by archaeology and history. The bison and the sequoia tree (symbols from the first two national parks--Yellowstone and Sequoia) represent the diverse natural world of plants and animals included within the system. The snowcapped mountain and glacier portrayed on the insignia's horizon and the white of the water in its right foreground signify the all-important values of scenery and recreation. The symbol first appeared on a park road sign, then a ranger uniform in September 1952. The icon was registered as an official emblem of the Park Service on February 9, 1965, by the United States Patent Office.

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PARKWAY MILEPOST



The Parkway Image...

On the Landscape, On Postcards, and On Coins

Preserving images of America's national parks began before there were parks. Many people credit artist George Catlin who traveled to the Dakota territory in the 1830s, cataloguing what he saw as the destructive effects of America's westward expansion on Native American civilizations along with wildlife and wilderness. Other images by other artists helped propel the national park movement throughout its early history, enticing the American public to visit the continent's most scenic and fascinating landscapes. These efforts led to the establishment of Yellowstone National Park in 1872. A vigorous public relations campaign in 1916, headed by National Geographic and The Saturday Evening Post, stamped more images in the minds of more Americans, resulting in the creation of the National Park Service as an agency whose sole purpose was to protect and conserve these special places.



The Blue Ridge Parkway's image has been similarly captured throughout the years in a variety places from calendars to books. Dating to the earliest days when only certain parts of the Parkway had been completed for travel, the paintings of Parkway scenes on postcards were popular items.



The literal stamping of images continues today with the "America's Beautiful National Parks Quarter Dollar Act". Passed by Congress in 2008, iconic images of a select group of America's National Parks are being stamped on these pieces of U.S. currency each year. Later this year, the Blue Ridge Parkway will be commemorated in the series as the image chosen for the North Carolina state quarter.

The selection of a national park or other national site is made by the Secretary of the Treasury in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the governor of the state. "The site chosen," according to the 2008 legislation, "shall be the most appropriate in terms of natural or historic significance." Without doubt, the Parkway fits these guidelines as one of the most popular attractions and iconic images anywhere in Virginia or North Carolina. As the National Park Service unit with the most visits for many years up until recently, the Parkway's graceful design and intricately planned details make it the primary choice for those wishing to visit this special region of America.

In determining the design for the 2015 quarter, park staff faced many of the same questions that the early designers of the road itself must have faced. What do we include? What do we leave out? How do we portray the Blue Ridge Parkway in a single image? The task was not an easy one.



Artists and designers collected images of the Parkway, visited multiple stretches of the road, and sent sketches and concepts to consider. The final choice, made by a hand-selected nationwide panel, includes all of the elements that make the Parkway what it is to visitors today.

The curvature of the road, rock tunnel portals, distant views, and representative flora and fauna from this part of the world are captured in the final design. When the coin is officially unveiled and made available to the public later this year, there will also be lesson plans available for children to learn more about the significance of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Images on canvas, on postcards, and on film have always played a significant role in providing support for the national parks, and the America's Beautiful National Parks quarter series is just the latest example.

Designing the Parkway

The Parkway's image on the landscape has been described in a variety of ways – sublime, graceful, even gently lying on the land.

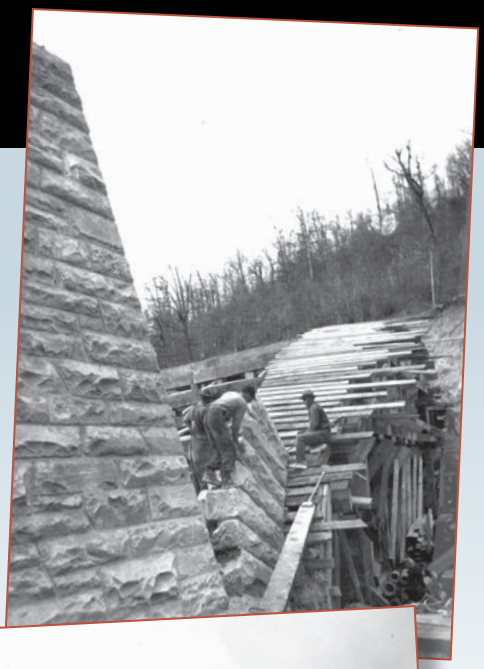
The landscape architects who envisioned and laid out the scene and the engineers who built the design on the land thought of this project as a work of art… it would have no dead areas and every detail must be exact. The image of the road and the landscape it revealed would, by design, have its broad, sweeping vistas along with the close up details. "Like a good piece of music," said Stanley W. Abbot, one of the earliest and most important visionaries, "it needs some fortissimo as well as its pianissimo" to keep the travelers' interest. The Parkway's constructed detail – its image – was guided by a number of overall concepts or principles and knowing something about those principles enhances your visit today.

Broadly speaking, the road was to nestle gently on the land, blending into a protected corridor, giving the impression that the horizon would be the boundary.

Overall, the Parkway was "to reveal the charm and interest of the native American countryside" as the designers perceived that to be. Log cabins and barns, rail fences, and "pioneer ways" were looked upon much more favorably that some of the more modern representations of America that had already found their way into the mountains in the 1930s and 1940s.

Broadly speaking, the road was to nestle gently on the land, blending into a protected corridor, giving the impression that the horizon would be the boundary. Nothing in the view shed as far as the eye could see would spoil the travelers' experience. In its design, the Parkway and all of its associated structures, including signs, guardrails, and lined ditches would be characterized by simplicity and informality in order to harmonize with the environment. In this respect, "All elements must compose" became the guiding principle. Deviating from the continuous mountaintop location of the Skyline Drive through Shenandoah National Park, the Parkway design offered a variety of kinds of viewing experiences. "One can get gorged on scenery," Abbot later said, so he viewed the Parkway as "following a mountain stream for a while, then climbing up on the slope of a hill pasture, then dipping down into the open bottom lands and back into the woodland." This variety was the "spice" of the Parkway. The Blue Ridge and Southern Appalachian region was not by any means pristine in the 1930s. Floods, fires, excessive logging, and the accompanying erosion had left a scarred landscape. The Parkway was, in many ways, a restoration project, and the planners had two other principles in mind related to this. All care should be taken to heal the scars carried by man's use of the land and by construction of the Parkway and it would be "married" with the cultural and natural landscape. In a number of areas along the road, large parcels of land were acquired where visitors could camp, picnic, hike, or gain overnight lodging. These areas took in whole "scenic pictures" and were thought of as wayside parks, becoming the gems on the necklace.

Unlike most national park areas, the Blue Ridge Parkway is a planned landscape – planned down to the smallest detail in ways that most visitors do not notice at first glance. The skills and creative genius of both landscape architects and engineers dovetailed together for the benefit of the millions who have enjoyed this drive for almost eight decades.











While most visitors travel the Parkway in an automobile, ever increasing numbers visit the park on two wheels, via bicycle or motorcycle. Remember, spectacular views are best enjoyed at one of the Parkway's many overlooks. Be aware of rapidly changing road character and environmental conditions, particularly when the roadway curves and descends at the same time. Please enjoy the views, but watch the curves.

Spotting the Details Along the Way

- Crossing most Parkway bridges, look for the continuous road shoulder of grass, a design feature intended to keep from disrupting the natural look of the road or the idea that it blends into the landscape.
- There is no side striping on the sides of the Parkway, once again giving the look and feel of the road blending into the natural environment of the road shoulders.
- The drainage culverts and headwalls beneath the road are usually designed as stone structures even though they are out of sight to motorists on the Parkway, emphasizing the attention early planners gave to the details of the construction.
- Look for the long, distant views that many times open up as you travel out of a curve, allowing the eyes to catch the view almost by surprise.
- There are very few straight lines in nature, so the Parkway was designed with few straight lines as well. The landscape architects called this a curvilinear design, one curve blending into the next.
- Notice the many different kinds of fences along the Parkway, made of stone, wood, or a combination of both, always designed for rustic beauty and function.
- Many Parkway buildings such as picnic shelters, comfort stations, or visitor centers, carry on the design in form, function, and materials of structures that were here before the Parkway.

100th anniversary

2016 National Park Service CENTENNIAL

2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service and while America has changed dramatically since the 1916 birth of the Park Service, the core mission remains the same to provide exemplary stewardship of and to provide for the public enjoyment of the special places the NPS manages.

The roots of the National Park Service lie in the parks' majestic, and sometimes isolated natural wonders and in places that reflect our nation's history and cultural heritage. Today, the reach of the agency extends beyond the traditional parks and into urban centers, across rural landscapes, deep within oceans, and across night skies.

In 2016, the Service will recommit to its core mission and celebrate the expanded contributions that national parks and the agency's community assistance programs make to create jobs, strengthen local economies, and support ecosystem services and will look to strategically leverage resources to further our contributions to society.

www.nps.gov/subjects/centennial/index.htm

GENERAL DRIVING SAFETY

Because of its unique design, the Parkway drive is different than most and this can mean taking some extra care to ensure a safe visit. "Enjoy the view, but watch the road!" is our way of reminding visitors to pay extra attention along the Parkway. A few specific pointers and facts may help even more.



WATCH OUT FOR…

STEEP GRADES – In some places, the Parkway has steeper grades than normally found on highways. Without paying close attention, your speed can increase far more than you expect.

UNFORGIVING ROAD SHOULDERS – The Parkway's road shoulders are narrow in places so that the meadows or forest edges grow close to the pavement. This is, of course, part of the beauty of the drive, but may require some extra attention.

BUILT-IN DISTRACTIONS – Wildlife, wildflowers, bicyclists, and extraordinary views… all of these contribute to the Parkway experience and every traveler should be aware of these while enjoying the drive.

LIMITED SIGHT DISTANCES – There aren't many straight lines in the natural world and the Parkway was designed with gentle curves and not many straight sections. This is part of what makes the road seem to lie gently on the land and it also requires some extra attention while driving.

SPEED CHANGES – The Parkway speed limit is mostly 45 mph, but occasionally you will find yourself in developed areas where the driving speed drops to 25 mph.

SPIRAL CURVES – Some of the tight curves do not have a consistent radius so extra care needs to be taken, especially on motorcycles.

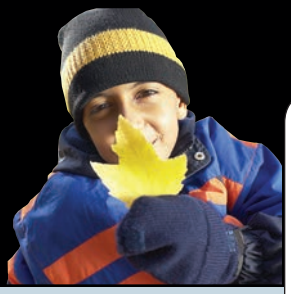


BICYCLING

- Wear a bicycle helmet. North Carolina law requires it for persons 16 and under and many Virginia counties do as well, but it's the safe thing to do regardless of your age.
- Wear high visibility clothing. It sets you apart from the scenery and makes you more visible to motorists.
- When cycling in a group, adjust your spacing to allow motor vehicles to pass safely.
- Exercise caution when riding through tunnels. There are 26 tunnels in North Carolina and 1 tunnel in Virginia.

Don't miss the Autumn season splendor of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

A truly spectacular sight!



Regulations By Recreational Activity

To help protect and preserve the Blue Ridge Parkway, yourself, and others, observe all park regulations. Be alert for uncontrolled fire, safety hazards, accidents and emergencies. Please report such conditions by calling ***9-1-1.***

ROADSIDE PARKING - Parking is allowed on road shoulders, but please avoid wet areas and make sure that all four wheels are off the pavement.

TRAILS - Trails are for hiking only. Bicycles and motorized vehicles are not permitted. Several horse riding trails are available.

CAMPING - Camping is permitted only in park campgrounds or designated back-country sites. See Camping information, page 9.

PETS - All pets must be on a leash (maximum six feet) or under physical restraint at all times while in the park. The territorial instinct of dogs can lead to fights with other dogs on the trail. Dogs also frighten hikers and chase wildlife. If a pet cannot be kept under control, it should be left at home.
Only service animals are permitted in facilities.

LAKES AND PONDS - These are for fishing and scenic beauty only, with no swimming allowed. Nearby U.S. Forest Service recreation areas, state parks, and mountain resorts often have swimming facilities.

PREVENT FOREST FIRES - Fires are permitted in the provided grills or fire pits in campgrounds and picnic areas only.

BOATS - Only on Price Lake, boats without motors or sails are permitted.

LITTER - Deposit all litter in the trash cans provided.

ALL NATURAL RESOURCES ARE PROTECTED - Leave wildflowers and other vegetation in their natural condition for others to enjoy. Do not disturb animal or plant life in any way. Hunting and trapping are prohibited. Do not interfere with animals by feeding, touching, or frightening them. Do not cut, deface, or damage trees.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - Possession of open containers of alcohol in vehicles is prohibited. Alcohol is permitted in campgrounds by registered campers and in picnic areas until 9:00 PM.

Accessibility:

Most parkway facilities are wheelchair usable. Some facilities have minor slopes and/or structural barriers. Use the grid shown here for site specific information. If more detailed information is needed, please contact the Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters, 199 Hemphill Knob Road, Asheville NC 28803 or call 828-298-0398.

PLACES TO PAUSE ALONG THE PARKWAY...

Check www.nps.gov/blri for availability of food and lodging during the 2015 season.

	Milepost	Visitor Center	Camping	Exhibits	Programs	Restrooms	Picnic Areas
Humpback Rocks	5.8	H		H	HP	H	X
Otter Creek	60.9				H	HP	
James River	63.8			H			
Peaks of Otter*	86	H	H	H	H	H	HP
Explore Park VC	115	H		H		H	
Roanoke Mountain	120.4				H		
Rocky Knob^	169		H		HP	HP	H
Mabry Mill **	176.1			HP	HP	HP	
Groundhog Mountain	189					HP	H
Blue Ridge Music Cntr	213	H		H	H	H	
Cumberland Knob	217.5					H	H
Doughton Park	241.1		H	HP	HP	HP	
NW Trading Post	258.6					H	
Jeffress Park	272					HP	H
Cone Park	294.1	H		H	H	H	
Price Park	297.1		H		H	HP	H
Linn Cove Viaduct	304.4	H		H		H	
Linville Falls	316.4	H	H	H	X	H	H
Minerals Museum	331	H		H	H	H	
Craggy Gardens	364.6	H		H		HPA	H
Folk Art Center	382	H		H	H	H	H
Parkway Visitor Ctr.	384	H		H	H	H	H
Mt Pisgah*	408.6		H		HP	H	HP
Waterrock Knob	451.2	H		H	H	H	

H – Wheelchair Accessible. HP – Accessible with Assistance.
X – Not Handicapped Accessible.
HPA – Located in Picnic Area. *- Lodging and Dining Available.
** Dining Available. ^ Lodging Available.



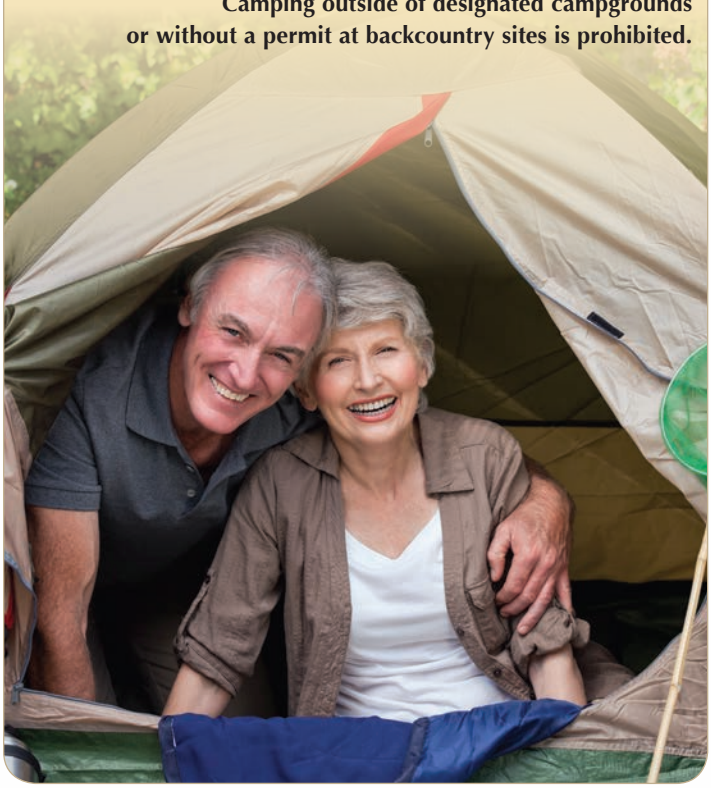
Camping

Of the Parkway's eight campgrounds, most have at least some sites that will accommodate sizeable recreational vehicles, and all offer restrooms, drinking water, picnic tables and grills. The settings are tranquil and scenic, and most offer ready access to miles of hiking trails for those who want to explore on foot. ***Be sure to ask about Ranger talks and campfire programs that are given most weekends and occasionally during the week.*** Most campgrounds are at elevations of more than 2,500 feet, which means that temperatures are usually cooler than in the surrounding area. Even in summer a sweater can come in handy.

Campgrounds are open early May through October.Reservations may be made for some sites at the **Peaks of Otter, Rocky Knob, Price Park, Linville Falls, Doughton Park** and **Mt. Pisgah** campgrounds. Showers facilities are only available at Mt. Pisgah campground. All other campgrounds and sites are "first come, first served." To make a reservation, visit ***www.recreation.gov*** on the Internet or call toll-free ***(877) 444-6777***. As a general rule, demand is higher on weekends and holidays. Go to the Plan Your Visit/Things To Do page at www.nps.gov/blri for camping fee information.

Group camping is available only at ***Linville Falls Campground. Call (828) 765-6082*** for more information. In addition, limited backcountry camping is available via permit at ***Basin Cove in Doughton Park. (336) 372-8568***, ***Rock Castle Gorge (540) 745-9661*** or ***Johns River Road Trail (828) 295-7591***.

Camping outside of designated campgrounds or without a permit at backcountry sites is prohibited.



Lodging & Dining

Lodges are located on the Parkway at ***Peaks of Otter*** (MP 86), and ***Mt. Pisgah*** (MP 408).



Pisgah Inn • Treetops

Restaurants, other facilities and services are available at a number of other locations, opening in mid- or late April.

Check www.nps.gov/blri for availability of food and lodging during the 2015 season.

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 test their skills 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.

Be A Good Guest In Bear Country!

Seeing bears can be the highlight of any visit to a national park. However, while visitors to the Parkway come and go, bears and other wildlife live here. Your actions can have a lasting impact on the behavior and health of these magnificent animals. Bears quickly lose their natural fear of people if fed human food, so do not feed them, crowd them or observe them too closely. Store all food, coolers, utensils or anything that may smell like food in locked vehicles. Place litter in garbage cans as soon as possible.

Restrooms

Restrooms are available at visitor centers, picnic areas and restaurants along the Parkway.

WHAT'S "PEAKING" ALONG THE PARKWAY?

Depending on the season and perhaps the personal interest of the visitor, many questions coming to Parkway staff have to do with "peak seasons." When things happen in the natural world can't be predicted precisely because of the variety of factors coming into play. The following short list gives some guidance, however, and may help you find your favorite "peak" event.

Rhododendron

Catawba rhododendron is the purple variety that blooms from early June around the Peaks of Otter in Virginia to the third week of June at Craggy Gardens in North Carolina. Any time between these dates, there are spots of the variety in bloom. Rosebay rhododendron is the larger, white or pink variety that begins in late June and blooms into July, primarily through Rocky Knob, Virginia.

Hawk Migration

Many species of hawks migrate south during the winter and one of their major routes follows the spine of the Blue Ridge. Warm air in the valleys rises up the sides of the mountains and hawks catch a ride on these thermals, circling higher and higher, almost going out of sight. Then they head south, coasting or gliding in order to save energy and flying as far down the ridge as possible. They will find another thermal, make another twisting, corkscrew ascent, and then another glide south. This pattern takes them hundreds of miles down the mountains toward their winter destination. North of Roanoke, Virginia at Harvey's Knob Overlook (Milepost 93.5) is a favorite spot for hawk watchers from September through November. Mahogany Rock (Milepost 235) in North Carolina is also a popular spot. Tens of thousands of hawks, along with a few Peregrine Falcons and perhaps a Bald Eagle are counted by local birding clubs each year during this spectacular migration.

Fall Foliage

Fall is the season when the Blue Ridge attracts the most attention. Travelers, nature writers, photographers, and artists come to enjoy the visual display created by hardwood leaves changing from summer green to autumn gold, red, and orange. Visiting here in the peak of the fall color season is a sight that few fail to appreciate. Finding the right "window" of time and the perfect spot can perhaps be nothing more than good fortune, but keeping a few things in mind and exercising some patience can increase anyone's changes of seeing the Blue Ridge in its autumn glory. Typically, the Parkway experiences the much anticipated change in fall foliage around the middle of October. Many factors contribute to variations in when and where colors will peak, with moisture throughout the year and the colder temperatures being key factors. In a park that is 500 miles north to south and varies over 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. A little planning in mid to late October will yield at least some of the spectacular color that we're famous for.

Monarch Butterflies

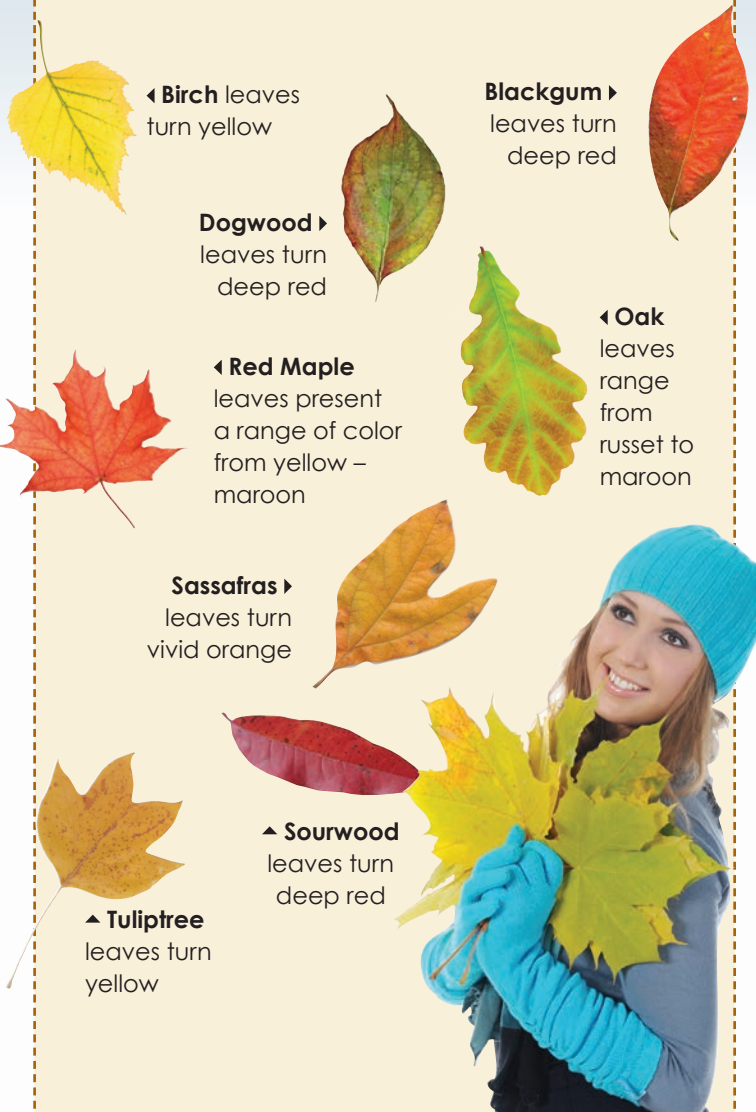
During the latter half of September, a little-known aspect of the grand scheme of nature unfolds along the Parkway as Monarch butterflies begin an epic migration. These familiar orange and black striped beauties are often seen on milkweed plants late in the summer. At Cherry Cove Parking Overlook (Milepost 415.7) south of Mt. Pisgah, visitors gather in mid-September to witness the north to south migration. Thousands of Monarchs may pass by here and other nearby places on a daily basis.

Wildflowers

Although visitors may know the precise place and time on the Parkway to view their favorite species of wildflowers in bloom, there is little doubt that May is, overall, the best month for wildflowers. May apple, trillium, some lingering bloodroot, Jack-in-the-pulpit, lady slippers, bleeding heart, and Firepink – all of which are among the most admired and photographed in the region – make their appearance at some time during the month. As with any blooming species, elevation can make lots of difference, so enjoy a long, leisurely drive, meander down a trail, and enjoy this special month of the year.

Fall leaf guide

Use this guide to identify the brilliant colors of Blue Ridge Parkway trees during fall leaf season.



PARKWAY BY THE SEASONS / WEATHER

As you plan your trip to the Blue Ridge Parkway, keep in mind that elevation and, to a lesser degree, your north-south orientation can make a big difference! The Parkway's elevation ranges from 649 feet at Virginia's James River to 6,047 feet south of Mount Pisgah in North Carolina. Sudden changes in weather are common in these mountains. It is always a good idea to have a jacket and cap on hand, dress in layers, and to be aware of the local weather forecasts.

SPRING – Springtime here in the mountains is a transitional period and very unpredictable. Winter weather can linger long after trees are greening up in the lowlands. Sunny skies can be followed quickly by cold fronts and snowy conditions. Afternoon rain showers are common. Below-freezing temperatures are still common throughout March and into mid April.

SUMMER – Summer is hot and humid as it is in most of the southeastern United States, but it is much more pleasant in the higher elevations. July and August high temperatures are typically in the 80s at mid to high elevations, warmer at the lower elevations. The summer temperatures can be considerably cooler at times and many times you will be glad to have a light jacket. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are common and can move in quickly.

FALL – Warm days and cool nights are the normal conditions, with frost common at high elevations beginning in late September. By the time leaf color has peaked in late October, expect high temperatures to sometimes remain in the 50s and 60s. Freezing temperatures and snow are a possibility beginning in November.

WINTER – Extreme winter weather can occur here, with wind, ice and snow occuring even when the piedmont has pleasant conditions. Always be prepared for fast-approaching winter weather conditions and expect parts of the road to be closed due to ice and snow.

Always check your favorite weather-related web sites for conditions prior to your visit any time of the year. The park information line, (828) 298 0398, is also a good source of park information.

Showy Blooms

A Quick Guide to some flowers & shrubs on the Parkway

Shrubs



Catawba Rhododendron
(Rhododendron catawbiense):
A medium shrub with pink to purple flowers growing above 3000 feet on exposed ridges.
June — Early July



Rosebay Rhododendron
(Rhododendron maximum):
also called White Rhododendron: A large shrub with white to pink flowers, over a wide range of elevations.
June — July



Flame Azalea
(Rhododendron calendulaceum):
A medium shrub with bright orange to red flowers. Azaleas are in the rhododendron family.
June — July



Wild Hydrangea
(Hydrangea arborescens):
A medium shrub with large clusters of white flowers.
May — August



Mountain Laurel
(Kalmia latifolia):
A medium shrub with pink flowers.
June — July



Pinxter Flower
(Rhododendron nudiflorum):
A medium shrub with pink honeysuckle-like flowers, common at lower elevations.
April — May

Flowers



Fire Pink
(Silene virginica):
This 6-20 inch plant has bright red flowers up to 1-1/2 inches wide.
April — June



Goat's Beard
(Aruncus dioicus):
3-5 feet tall with flower plumes 3-5 inches wide and 6-10 inches long.
May — June



Bluets
(Houstonia species):
3-6 inches tall with many small 4-petal flowers, light to dark blue. Bluets sometimes grow in large beds.
May-August



Turks-Cap Lily
(Lilium superbum):
6 to 10 feet tall with flowers 2-4 inches wide with a green star at center. The Carolina Lily (L. michauxii) is similar but lacks the green star and bears fewer flowers.
July-August



(Trillium grandiflorum):
The largest of several trilliums found along the parkway, grows to about 15 inches. Trilliums have 3 leaves and a single 3-petal flower.
April — May



Bee Balm
(Monarda didyma
also called Oswego Tea:
2-5 feet tall with bright red 2-inch flowers. Wild Bergamot is similar but pink.
July — August

OTHER COMMON FLOWERS

Birdfoot Violet - (Viola pedata) 4-10 inches tall, bluish-purple flower. March — June
Columbine - (Aquilegia canadensis) about 2 feet tall, nodding red and yellow flower. June — July
Sun Drops - (Oenothera fruticosa) 1-2 feet tall, yellow 4-petal flower. June — July
Evening Primrose - (Oenothera biennis) 3-5 feet tall, yellow 4-petal flower. June — July
Phlox - (Phlox species) 2-6 feet tall, magenta-pink flowers. July — October
Touch-me-not - (Impatiens species) 3-6 feet tall, nodding yellow or orange flower. July — August
Tall Bellflower - (Campanula americana) 2-6 feet tall, blue, 5-petal flower. July — August
White Snakeroot - (Eupatorium rugosum) 3-5 feet tall, bright white flower heads. July — Sept
Dense Blazing Star - (Liatris spicata) 2-4 feet tall, rose-purple flowered spike. August — Sept
Goldenrod - (Solidago species) about 3 feet tall, golden-yellow spikes or plumes. August — Sept
Ox Eye Daisy - (Chrysanthemum leucanthemum) 1-3 feet tall; white petals, yellow center.
Black-Eyed Susan - (Rudbeckia hirta) 3-6 feet tall, yellow petals, black center.
Tall Coneflower - (Rudbeckia laciniata) 2-3 feet tall, drooping yellow petals, green center.
Coreopsis - (Coreopsis major) 2-3 feet tall, golden-yellow petals, green center.
Jerusalem Artichoke - (Helianthus tuberosus) 5-10 feet tall, yellow petals, yellow center.
Aster -(Aster species) 2-5 feet tall; many small flowers; blue, purple, or white petals.

POPULAR HIKING TRAILS OF THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

Hiking maps are available for some of the trails listed below. Check with the Visitor Center closest to the trailhead.

Virginia Trails

Milepost	Trail - Miles - Difficulty
5.9	**Farm Museum Trail 0.25** *easy*
34.4	**Yankee Horse** (logging RR) **0.2** *moderate*
60.8	**Otter Creek 3.5** *moderate*
63.1	**Otter Lake Loop 0.8** *moderate*
63.6	**James River**(canal locks) **0.2** *easy*
63.6	**Trail of Trees Loop 0.5** *moderate*
78.4	**Apple Orchard Falls 1.2** *strenuous* **
83.1	**Fallingwater Cascades 1.6** *moderate* **
83.5	**Flat Top** 4.4 *strenuous*
85.7	**Abbott Lake Loop 1.0** *easy*
85.9	**Elk Run Loop 0.8** *easy*
85.9	**Johnson Farm Loop 2.1** *moderate*
85.9	**Harkening Hill 3.3** *moderate*
86.0	**Sharp Top 1.6** *strenuous*
110.6	**Stewart Knob 1.2** *moderate*
114.9	**Roanoke River Loop 0.35** *easy*
120.4	**Roanoke Mountain Summit 0.11** *moderate*
154.5	**Smart View Loop 2.6** *moderate*
167.1	**Rock Castle Gorge Loop 10.8** *strenuous*
176.2	**Mabry Mill 0.5** *easy*
213.0	**Fisher's Peak Loop 2.25** *moderate*

North Carolina Trails

Milepost	Trail - Miles - Difficulty
217.5	**Cumberland Knob 0.5** *easy*
230.1	**Little Glade Millpond Loop 0.4** *easy*
241.0	**Fodder Stack 1.0** *moderate*
271.9	**Cascades Loop 0.5** *moderate*
294.0	**Flat Top Mountain 3.0** *moderate*
294.1	**Figure 8 Loop 0.7** *easy*
296.5	**Boone Fork Loop 5.5** *moderate-strenuous*
297.0	**Price Lake Loop 2.7** *moderate*
304.4	**Linn Cove Viaduct Access 0.16** *easy*
305.2	**Beacon Heights 0.2** *moderate*
305.5	**Tanawha** (MP 297 - 305) **13.5** *moderate-strenuous* D
316.4	**Linville Falls, Erwins View 0.8** *moderate*
316.4	**Linville Falls, Plunge Basin 0.5** *strenuous*
339.5	**Crabtree Falls 2.5** *strenuous*
364.2	**Craggy Pinnacle 0.7** *moderate*
407.6	**Mt. Pisgah Summit 1.3** *moderate-strenuous*
407.6	**Buck Springs** (lodge to view) **1.06** *easy-moderate*
408.5	**Frying Pan Mountain 1.06** *moderate-strenuous*
418.8	**Graveyard Fields Stream Loop 2.3** *moderate*
431.0	**Richland Balsam 1.5** *moderate*
451.2	**Waterrock Knob Summit 0.6** *moderate-strenuous*

North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail

The Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST), when complete, will extend over 930 miles from Clingman's Dome, in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, to Jockey's Ridge on the North Carolina Outer Banks. Much of the MST parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway with many trail access points along the Parkway.

The Carolina Mountain Club maintains and builds trails from the Tanawha Trail to Stone Mountain (MP 305 - 236). To volunteer, contact:

Carolina Mountain Club
PO Box 10431
Raleigh, NC • 27605
www.ncmst.org

Please note: Distances are one way except for loop trails. See trail maps for distances, features, walking conditions and important advice.

*** Designated National Recreation Trail. D=Tanawha has nine Parkway access points, several in the Grandfather Mountain area.*

Waterfall Hikes

Remember to always take caution while enjoying waterfalls around the Parkway. Do not climb on rocks near waterfalls and use extreme caution when walking along riverbanks. These rocks are slippery due to mist and algae. Never dive or jump into park waters. Submerged rocks, trees or debris could be immediately below the surface of the water.

Hiking to a waterfall can be a wonderful and rewarding experience. Below is a list of popular hikes with waterfalls along the Parkway.

MP 78 **Apple Orchard Falls** - These falls have a viewing platform directly underneath the falls, creating a refreshing shower during the summer months.

MP 83 **Falling Water Cascades** - Near Peaks of Otter, the trail is lined with rhododendrons, creating a beautiful hike setting.

MP 316 **Linville Falls**- Linville Falls has four different overlooks to properly appreciate the falls.

MP 339 **Crabtree Falls** - Originally, these falls were known as Murphy's Falls until the Park Service changed the name to Crabtree Falls when the Parkway was built in the 1930's.

MP 411 **Looking Glass Falls** - Looking Glass Falls is one of the most symmetrical waterfalls in western North Carolina. Travel east on 276. Sliding Rock and Moore Cove Falls are nearby.

MP 417 **Skinny Dip Falls** - Skinny Dip Falls features a swimming hole at the bottom of the cascades. These falls lie along the Mountains-to-Sea trail.

MP 419 **Graveyard Fields Falls** - The name "Graveyard Fields" originates from a time when a great windstorm felled hundreds of spruce and fir trees in the area. The moss covered stumps resemble graves.

PARKS ARE 4 U!

National Parks offer something for everyone...from the traditional park experiences to new and exciting Healthy Parks/Healthy People and youth oriented initiatives, these personal experiences can deepen your connection to America's National Parks. We invite you to join in or learn more about any of the following during your Parkway visit.

Ranger Led Programs

Rangers and park volunteers share their knowledge of the Parkway by presenting a variety of interpretive programs from June through October. Campfire talks, guided hikes, historic craft demonstrations, music, and nature study are some of the activities you and your family can enjoy. Specific schedules are posted at all developed areas.

Junior Ranger Programs

A Junior Ranger is someone like you who cares for and learns about America's national parks so that others in the future may enjoy them. Ask for a handbook at any visitor center and begin your journey to becoming a Parkway Junior Ranger.

Special Events

Numerous special events occur on the Parkway.

Music and Art in the Mountains - A celebration of the benefits of ART in our lives and their role in the establishment of the first National Park sites.

The Transportation Festival at James River - where exhibitors including the Virginia Canals and Navigation Society, a replica Batteau, the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Heritage Museum, and an Antique Automobile Club exhibit the various forms of travel that have moved goods and people through the area historically.

The Peaks of Otter Nature Center - showcases the natural history of Virginia's mountain. Situated at the popular Sharp Top Mountain trailhead and bus stop, visitors can stop in before and after their venture up to Sharp Top.

Join the crowd to enjoy traditional music concerts are held at Mabry Mill, Humpback Rocks and Roanoke Mountain Day Use area during the summer. ***Check the Parkway's calendar of events at www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/events.htm***

Junior Conservationist Program:

Take a Step to Sustainability

Sustainability means different things to different people. Ecologically speaking, sustainability means living within the resources of the planet without damaging the environment now or in the future. Awareness is the first step towards preserving this balance and National Parks are a great place to learn what steps you can take to help care for the planet. Ask how you can become a Junior Conservationist and Take a Step to Sustainability at any of the Parkway visitor centers.

NPS Academy program



L-R: Casey Jenkins, University of Tampa; Jillian Cullen, State University of New York - Potsdam; Gabbi Romero, University of New Mexico; Callie Reuland, Indiana University; Rhakia Alcarez, California State University - Channel Islands; Not pictured: Claree James, University of Arkansas - Pine Bluff

The National Park Service and the Student Conservation Association have joined forces to develop the NPS Academy. The Academy is an innovative, experiential learning program designed to introduce undergraduate and graduate students from under-represented communities to career opportunities with the National Park Service. To learn more go to ***www.thesca.org/serve/program/nps-academy.***

Kids In Parks

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation's Kids in Parks TRACK Trails program is a network of self-guided hiking trails on and in communities along the Parkway. Each trail has a series of 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 that make their next outdoor adventure more fun. Visit the five TRACK Trails on the Blue Ridge Parkway at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville, Peaks of Otter, Julian Price Park and the Blue Ridge Music Center. Learn more at ***kidsinparks.com***

Mid Day Mountain Music

The sounds of the fiddle, banjo, and guitar are likely to welcome you when you visit the Blue Ridge Music Center. Experience regional traditional music each day of the week with FREE local Mid-Day Mountain Musicians playing on the breezeway of the visitors center from Noon - 4 PM.



WORKING TOGETHER TO PROTECT PARKWAY VIEWSHEDS







Above: Before and after vista clearing and a proud work crew.
photos by Exposure Roanoke Camera Club

Unfolding a map of the Parkway reveals its most identifiable and notable feature …it is long and narrow! This shape affects management of the park and the visitors' experience as well. Along the majority of the Parkway, the boundary remains close at hand, and the long, sweeping views that we enjoy from the ridgetops extend all the way to the horizon.

During construction of the Parkway, local residents referred to the overlooks as "balconies" and the Parkway remains today as something of a platform or a balcony for many visitors. People enjoy climbing up high and looking out into valleys and across distant mountain ranges, and into rural landscapes and local communities.

This idea, the horizon as the boundary, also creates unique challenges today for those who manage the Parkway, since the park was designed to take full advantage of these scenic views. Decisions made outside the park boundary in the communities along the way affect the visitors' experience and, in a similar way, every decision made by Parkway management is done with the understanding that this can affect the neighboring communities.

Surveys of visitors indicate that the primary reasons they come here are for recreation and for viewing scenery. Such surveys suggest a direct relationship between changing land uses and reduced revenues in counties where the scenic quality of views is diminished. Land-use changes in the 29 counties along the Parkway are dramatically altering the scenic quality as viewed from some 1,200 Parkway roadside and overlook vistas.

Another aspect of the viewshed issue that is becoming more of a concern to visitors is the amount of vegetation growth along the boundary blocking the view that visitors want to see. Keeping overlooks and vistas cleared is time consuming and labor intensive. As so often is the case on the Parkway, partners and cooperators have come to our aid to assist. Haywood County, North Carolina has donated funds in recent years specifically earmarked for clearing vistas in those high elevation areas south of Asheville where visitors look out into that mountain county. In Virginia, in 2014, the Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway license plate program has generated the necessary funds for bringing in an expert group of National Park Service arborists and chain saw crew to clear over two dozen vistas and viewsheds in the Roanoke, VA region.

The Parkway may look simple on a map - a long, thin, blue line meandering down the mountains between Shenandoah and the Smokies. But keeping the magnificent views to the horizon as they were intended in the early days is a challenge that will continue for years to come.

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"
A RESPONSIBLE VISIT





- The best diet for all animals is a natural one. Human food can make any wild animal sick. The digestive system of a white tail deer, common around campgrounds and picnic areas, only breaks down the natural food sources including twigs, bark, leaves, grasses and acorns. Wild animals like the taste of human food, but for their safety and health, do not feed them.
- The Parkway has unique habitats that support rare and endangered plants and animals. Many of these plants are threatened by foot traffic. The problem can be alleviated by the simple practice of staying on the trail. There are several especially sensitive areas, including the Tanawha Trail around Grandfather Mountain, the Craggy Pinnacle Trail at Craggy Gardens, and at Devil's Courthouse. Whether you suspect the presence of rare plants or not, please stay on the trail – if for no other reason than to protect all plants and to prevent erosion.
- 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 squirrel, chipmunk, or other animal comes close without your encouragement, it could be a sign of serious illness. Please tell a ranger.
- All plants on the Parkway are protected. Many of our native wildflowers in the Blue Ridge are threatened by illegal harvesting. The large, round, shiny evergreen leaves of Galax have been gathered commercially in the southern Appalachian mountains for generations for decorative uses in floral arrangements. Now harvested on a much larger scale, they are being shipped to flower shops around the world.

Mount Mitchell State Park, NC

Mount Mitchell is the highest point in eastern North America, rising to 6,684 feet. A Mount Mitchell State Park map with trail information is available at the state park headquarters, two miles up NC State Highway 128 from the park entrance at Milepost 355.4. Write to Mount Mitchell State Park, 2388 State Hwy 128, Burnsville, NC 28714 or call (828) 675 4611. www.ncparks.gov

Appalachian Trail, VA

The Appalachian Trail parallels the first 100 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway to a point just north of Roanoke VA. There are many trail access points along this section of the Parkway. For more information, please refer to Appalachian Trail publications. www.nps.gov/appa

Other Important Safety Advice

- Hiking shoes or boots are recommended for most trails, especially the more strenuous ones. Steep and rocky areas and slippery stream crossings require extra attention and careful footing. Even for trails marked "easy," it is advisable to wear flat or rubber-soled shoes for comfort and good traction. Wearing sandals, "flip-flops," or high heels can result in accidents.
- Lock valuables in the trunk of your car or take them with you.
- 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. Be prepared for weather changes by bringing along suitable clothing.
- Do not drink the water from streams or springs.

Connecting With NPS-Blue Ridge Parkway:

Please visit our website www.nps.gov/blri for Parkway travel updates, points of interest, suggestions and more from NPS staff.

You can also visit our social media sites for NPS updates and fun facts about the Blue Ridge Parkway:

facebook.com/BlueRidgeNPS

twitter.com/blueridgenps

BlueRidgeParkwayNPS

Real Time Road Closure Map:

maps.nps.gov/blri/road-closures

Check for weather or construction-related closures updated daily by Blue Ridge Parkway staff.

Traditional Music Trails

From the Parkway, travelers can easily find this music in towns and venues throughout the region:

- Blue Ridge Music Trails: *www.BlueRidgeMusicNC.com*
- The Crooked Road: *www.thecrookedroad.org*

These driving trails lead them to towns and venues throughout the region. Downtown Floyd, VA becomes a picker's paradise on Friday nights around the Floyd Country Store. Asheville's downtown also fosters the creative juices of street musicians and informal jam sessions. Annual fiddlers' conventions are too numerous to name, but the Old Time Fiddlers' Convention in Galax, VA and The Mountain Dance and Folk Festival in Asheville, NC both trace their origins to the 1920s & 1930s.



GOING GREEN

Along the Parkway



FOSTERING STEWARDSHIP THROUGH FLEET GREENING

The new hybrid and propane vehicles are expected to save 2,000 gallons of fuel each year.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is much more than just a roadway connecting Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks. It is one of the nation's most biologically diverse parks as well. One of the challenges in daily operations and management of the Blue Ridge Parkway is its linear layout. Serving the visiting public and taking care of park resources requires more than a dozen field offices along its length. The 300 park-owned vehicles and heavy equipment must respond to the demands of mountainous terrain, often traveling 50 or more miles each day. This large fleet as well as the millions of travelers on the road put the Blue Ridge Parkway in a unique position to be a leader in sound environmental practices and in promoting the use of advanced technology vehicles.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program partnering through the Clean Cities National Parks Initiative seems to be the perfect fit for this linear park. The Initiative supports transportation projects that educate park visitors on the benefits of reducing dependence on petroleum, cutting greenhouse gasses, and easing traffic congestion. This Initiative also complements the National Park Service's Climate Friendly Parks program by demonstrating the environmental benefits of reducing petroleum use.

With the majority of the Parkway's vehicle fleet in need of replacement, Parkway management has seized the opportunity for "greening up" our vehicle fleet. Partnering with Asheville, NC's "Land of the Sky Clean Vehicle Coalition," the Parkway acquired four hybrid passenger vehicles and three propane pickup trucks to replace less efficient vehicles. These new efficient vehicles will be added to a fleet already modernized with 51 vehicles that are designed to use E85 fuel.

These steps are part of the Parkway's overall Fleet Management Plan, incorporating strategies to reduce the petroleum use in the park 30% by 2020. This plan will include proposed reduction of the overall fleet size, continued replacement of existing vehicles with more energy efficient or alternative fuel vehicles, reducing overall miles traveled, and implementation of gas-saving driving techniques. In the years ahead, the Parkway also expects to expand the use of E85 alternative fuel systems and incorporate additional hybrid electric and bi-fuel vehicles into the fleet. Working with the Land of the Sky Clean Vehicles Coalition and the Virginia Clean Cities Coalition, these and other strategies will be pursued.

The new hybrid and propane vehicles are expected to save 2,000 gallons of fuel each year. These vehicles will be out on the Parkway this season, marked with "Clean Cities" and the NPS Arrowhead, providing a tangible tool that exemplifies the National Park Service commitment to reducing its carbon footprint. As stewards of our national cultural and natural treasures, the NPS is taking a leading role in sustainability and climate change mitigation to ensure these special places are around for the enjoyment of future generations.

"LEEDING" THE WAY AT THE PARKWAY VISITOR CENTER

Located at Milepost 384

The Blue Ridge Parkway took a huge step forward in going green when the visitor center adjacent to park headquarters in Asheville, NC opened in 2008. Not only can visitors now make one stop to learn about the entire 469 miles of the Parkway, they can do so in an environmentally friendly, "LEED" certified building, reflecting the best in energy-saving technology.



What does it mean to be ***LEED certified***? The U.S. Green Building Council (UGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification promotes self-supporting design and calculates the environmental function of a building and the environmentally-friendly measures taken during construction and subsequent use of the building. The USGBC established this system to encourage green building practices and techniques.

Less than a year after its opening, the visitor center received LEED's "Gold" status, a rating that acknowledges the building's design exceeds the standards for energy efficiency. Green buildings are not only good for the environment, they are good for us as well. Such construction means blending the building into its natural surroundings, less waste going to the landfill, lower operating costs, improved indoor air quality, and reduced air pollution.
Among the most notable features of the green design of the Parkway visitor center include…

Green Roof - The 10,000 square foot roof of the visitor center is completely planted with native, drought tolerant plants. Green roofs last longer, reduce energy costs with their natural insulation, and are thought to improve air quality by filtering out dust and smog.

Radiant Floor Heating - Tubing installed in the building's concrete floor has circulating warm water, allowing the concrete to absorb the heat and warm the building.

Trombe Walls - Some of the best eco-friendly design features are also the most simple and non-mechanical. Thick walls resulting in good insulation have been a part of smart design for generations. Solar heat is collected and stored in thick walls, tempering day time heat gain and releasing heat at night. The 12" thick glass and concrete walls in the visitor center mean slow, even heating long after the sun has set in the winter. The angle of the building and its designed overhang keep the walls from heating up in the summer.

Natural Materials - The use of natural materials in construction, purchased within a 500 mile radius, minimizing freight costs and aiding the local economy.

Rainwater - A storm water runoff system captures rainwater either for use on site or allowing water to filter slowly back into the ground.



While enjoying the benefits of this most recent and most "green" Parkway facility, visitors can of course find out all they need to know about planning a full Parkway experience. The interactive I-Wall, a 22 foot map of the Parkway with multi-media information of places to visit is a great place to begin. A 24 minute award-winning film "The Blue Ridge Parkway – America's Favorite Journey" is shown hourly. Explore exhibits of the region's natural and cultural diversity and the recreational opportunities available. The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area has offices here and provides information on the region.

In addition to year-round orientation of the Parkway and the Blue Ridge region, the National Park Service takes pride that the structure itself will continue to exemplify natural resource stewardship for years to come.

Parkway Partners in Action

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Perhaps one of these groups has a place for you to help!

The first National Park Service Director Stephen T. Mather said 'establishment of parks is not enough, what is needed are more people who will take the time to gain a better understanding of the important issues facing our National Parks.'

Increasingly partnerships and volunteer service are essential and effective means for the National Park Service to fulfill parts of our mission and foster a shared sense of stewardship that is so crucial for our future. Stephen Mather knew that building public support for the newly established National Park System was crucial for its future.

Fortunately, many non-profit partner groups today work hand-in-hand with the Blue Ridge Parkway. While these organizations have differing missions, they share an overarching goal: to preserve and enhance the national treasure that is the Blue Ridge Parkway. Learn more and get involved in their work.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION:
www.blueridgeparkway.org
BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION:
www.brpfoundation.org
BLUE RIDGE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA:
www.blueridgeheritage.com
CAROLINA MOUNTAIN CLUB:
www.carolinamountainclub.org
CONSERVATION TRUST FOR NORTH CAROLINA:
www.ctnc.org
EASTERN NATIONAL:
www.easternnational.org
FRIENDS OF THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY:
www.blueridgefriends.org

In addition, volunteers are vital to the success of the National Park Service (NPS). The Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) Program at Blue Ridge Parkway works to preserve the cultural heritage, history, and natural resources of the Parkway region by helping to provide visitor services, education, interpretation, and resource protection programs and activities.

For more information about volunteering on the Blue Ridge Parkway visit http://www.nps.gov/blri/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm or use this QR code.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

Discover Your Journey… Then Help Us Protect It.



Mabry Mill. Photo: Vicki Dameron

The Blue Ridge Parkway is no ordinary road. With grand mountains, rich Appalachian culture, stunning landscapes, and outdoor adventures from beginning to end, this exceptional journey connects us to the natural wonders and enriching heritage of our mountains.

Maintaining the ribbon of road, overlooks, forests, trails, historic sites, and more requires steady commitment, ample resources, and on-the-ground work. Unlike many popular National Parks, the Parkway receives no income from entrance fees. By supporting the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, you play a role in sustaining and nurturing this national treasure. Without your support, many of the resources, amenities, and services often taken for granted would vanish. Whether your interests are in education, environmental and resource protection, visitor amenities, or cultural heritage, you can join the thousands of others who understand the importance of preserving this route that forever ties us to the grandeur and rich history of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Visit BRPFoundation.org to become a member of our Community of Stewards.

Contact INFO

For a full list of Foundation projects, please visit:
BRPFoundation.org/projects
or call (866) 308-2773

BRPFoundation.org
"A Community of Stewards"

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION

Parkway Partners in Action

BLUE RIDGE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area (BRNHA) expands the stewardship of the mountains and foothills of North Carolina beyond the boundaries of the Parkway and other national parks in the region.

In fact, it reaches across 11,000 square miles of mountains, valleys, rolling hills, rivers, lakes, and communities large and small. It's a land with a heritage so rich and important to the history of the nation and the state that in 2003 it was designated a National Heritage Area. The Blue Ridge Parkway serves as a gateway to communities throughout this vast region and offers a premier opportunity for visitors to enjoy the spectacular natural heritage that is the cornerstone of the designation.

The other heritage legacies included in the legislation are the region's traditional mountain music, crafts, agriculture and Cherokee culture.

DID YOU KNOW:

- No other place has had more influence on the development of the banjo in America.
- One of the longest, unbroken ballad singing traditions in America is found in Madison County.
- Team square dancing first originated in the 1930s in Haywood County.
- More ballad singers, old-time fiddlers and banjo players from WNC have been awarded the National Heritage Fellowship, our nation's greatest honor in the traditional arts, than any other state.
- MerleFest in Wilkesboro, NC, is one of the nation's largest and most influential "Americana" music events.

Visitor Services



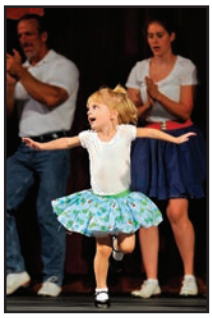
The BRNHA Partnership staffs an information desk at the Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville, helping visitors find things to see and do in the communities both along and off the Parkway.

Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina

Western North Carolina has a national reputation as a music-rich region, and its traditions of old-time stringband music, ballad singing and bluegrass are internationally renowned. The artistry of our musicians has shaped many forms of American music.



Traditional music can be heard everywhere from hometown oprys and informal jam sessions to music halls and concert stages, such as the Blue Ridge Music Center on the Parkway. Festivals and old-time music conventions, some dating back almost a century, offer an abundance of opportunities for visitors to experience this authentic heritage throughout the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area.



Learn when and where to hear the music at BlueRidgeMusicNC.com, where you'll find a comprehensive events calendar for traditional music events and much more.

The Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina is a signature project of the BRNHA Partnership and the North Carolina Arts Council.

MUSIC TRAILS of North Carolina

BlueRidgeMusicNC.com

BRNHA Grants Create New Heritage Attractions

Grants from the BRNHA Partnership help fund the enhancement of existing and development of new heritage attractions in all parts of the region. These projects aim to give visitors a deeper understanding of the natural and cultural treasures that make this region so special.



A grant from the BRNHA helped develop the Cherokee Homestead Exhibit in Hayesville, NC.

BLUERIDGE NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

The offices of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area are in the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville.

828-298-5330
BlueRidgeHeritage.com

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION

The Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation brings people together to protect and preserve the natural, cultural, and historic resources of the Blue Ridge Parkway and cultivate a new generation of stewards for this beloved journey. The Parkway provides visitors with so many rich experiences and deserves our care in return. Yet, the funds to sustain and enhance this special place are limited. As the primary private fundraiser for the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Foundation has provided more than $6 million to fund critical projects—all thanks to thousands of people determined to address real needs that could jeopardize the future of this national treasure.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation



Photo: Monty E. Combs

Each year, the Foundation adopts new projects that enhance the experience and protect the Blue Ridge Parkway for its visitors, which total more than Yellowstone, Yosemite, and Grand Canyon National Parks combined. Think of all the journeys shared, trails explored, campsites enjoyed, historic sites visited, and the impact each has on every traveler. Many national parks charge entrance fees, but Blue Ridge Parkway visitors enjoy all the scenic road has to offer for free. Without funding from park fees, outside support is critical to maintain the wealth of resources along the 469-mile ribbon of road. Whether it's preservation efforts at Moses Cone Memorial Park or trail repairs at Price and Abbott lakes, the Foundation works to give Parkway visitors a well-rounded and memorable experience. When donors join in our efforts, they become members of our Community of Stewards and ensure a bright horizon for the journeys and generations to come. Visit ***www.brpfoundation.org*** to learn more.

Kids in Parks



The Blue Ridge Parkway is the birthplace of the Foundation's Kids in Parks program, which started as a single trail opened at the Visitor Center near Asheville. The program has since expanded nationwide with a network of TRACK Trails for families. Through self-guided brochures that feature mascots, TRACK the dog and KIP the dragonfly, children are guided along family-friendly trails, encouraging them to explore the natural world and get active. The program is effectively engaging children through activities and building their connection to parks that serve as enriching community resources. To find a trail along the Blue Ridge Parkway, visit ***www.kidsinparks.com.***

Blue Ridge Music Center



The Blue Ridge Music Center, milepost 213, is fertile ground for the rich sounds of the Blue Ridge Mountains, whether showcasing songs that have endured for generations or the evolving interpretations of young musicians embracing their musical heritage. The Foundation oversees the musical programming at this National Park Service venue, planning stage performances every weekend from May through October, and helping organize free, daily Midday Mountain Musician concerts. The concerts complement the Roots of American Music Exhibit at the onsite museum. To plan a visit and secure concert tickets, visit ***www.blueridgemusiccenter.org***.

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY FOUNDATION

www.brpfoundation.org
(866) 308-2773

Parkway Partners in Action

FRIENDS OF THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

"I have a stronger connection with the land now, a different land. It has made me realize that there isn't just one type of ecosystem that I have to conserve; there are many."

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway is the official membership and volunteer partner organization of the National Park Service Blue Ridge Parkway. For over 26 years FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway has provided a means for its members and volunteers to preserve, protect and enhance the Parkway.

The cornerstone work of FRIENDS is to provide volunteer and financial support to the Parkway in such a way that cultivates stewardship among neighboring communities, organizations, businesses and individuals of all ages: children, students and adults alike. Work is accomplished annually on overlooks, trails, viewshed maintenance, volunteer programs, and special projects that meet park needs in maintenance, resource management, education, and interpretation. Visit www.FriendsBRP.org to learn how you can become a FRIEND of the Blue Ridge Parkway and protect this national treasure for future generations. Every $1 invested in FRIENDS generates $4 in volunteer service.

Saving Parkway Views



Visitors to the Blue Ridge Parkway come in no small part for the scenic views. The blazing fall leaves, lush forests, long distance vistas and spring flower blooms draw visitors back year after year. FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway established the Saving Parkway Views program to restore the breathtaking views that keep visitors coming to the Parkway year after year. The program's mission is two-fold:

• Tree plantings restore the ecological buffer zone between the Parkway and encroaching development. Since the program began, 6,440 trees have been planted in areas where views and ecological buffers have been compromised.
• Throughout the 469-mile corridor, hundreds of overlooks and vistas which were so carefully selected and sited by the late parkway architect Stanley Abbott, have become overgrown. With funds raised through Virginia Blue Ridge Parkway license plate sales, overlooks and vistas have begun to be cleared starting with the Fall 2014 week- long blitz in the Roanoke area.

FRIENDS Network of Chapters



FRIENDS Chapters are the backbone of our work on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Because of a continual decrease in national funding, volunteers are vital to ensuring the survival of our Park. In 2014 volunteers working through their local Chapters throughout Parkway communities main-tained 233 miles of trails, and cleaned up thousands of pounds of trash and recycla¬bles at overlooks and roadside. They repaired fences, prepared camp¬grounds for summer visitors, and documented historic cemetery sites. They hosted college students through FRIENDS Alternative Break Program, to provide service projects on the Parkway. Parkway volunteers provide thousands of hours of invaluable service annually working alongside National Park Service Blue Ridge Parkway staff to preserve the Parkway and enhance visitors' experiences.

Cultivating Future Stewards



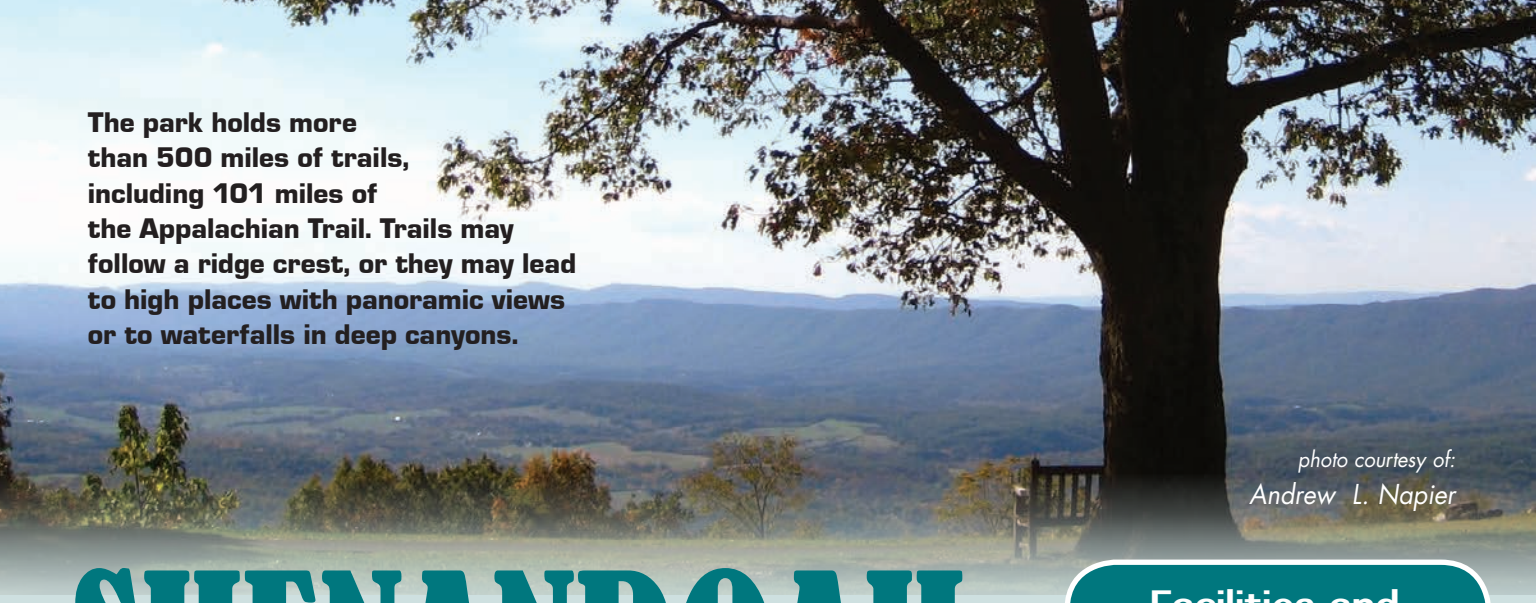
FRIENDS' commitment to stewardship of the Parkway drives our work today and our focus on the future. The Future Stewards program educates and engages today's youth in conservation, ecology and forest stewardship, fostering long-term commitment and volunteerism for this pristine park and its incredible natural resources.

Engaging young people, from elementary school to college age, as volunteers gives them a first-hand look at the impact of their work and helps to develop a lifelong love of the outdoors. FRIENDS funds environmental education for youth through the Youth Volunteers-in-Parks program, supports Summer student internships on the Parkway as well as an Alternative Spring Break program that brings in groups of university students for spring and fall projects on the Parkway.

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Inc.

FRIENDS is an authorized National Park Service Blue Ridge Parkway partner organization. FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Inc, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina and the Commonwealth of Virginia, whose current principal business address for identification purposes is P.O. Box 20986, Roanoke, Virginia 24014. Tax ID #: 58-1854404. Consider leaving a Blue Ridge Parkway Legacy of support to Blue Ridge Parkway's Future by remembering FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway, Inc. in your will.

540.772.2992
www.FriendsBRP.org



The park holds more than 500 miles of trails, including 101 miles of the Appalachian Trail. Trails may follow a ridge crest, or they may lead to high places with panoramic views or to waterfalls in deep canyons.

photo courtesy of:
Andrew L. Napier

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

AMERICA'S BYWAYS™

Shenandoah National Park lies astride a beautiful section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which form the eastern rampart of the Appalachian Mountains between Pennsylvania and Georgia. The Shenandoah River flows through the valley to the west, with Massanutten Mountain, 40 miles long, standing between the river's north and south forks. The rolling Piedmont country lies to the east of the park. Skyline Drive, a 105-mile road that winds along the crest of the mountains through the length of the park, provides vistas of the spectacular landscape to east and west. Many animals, including deer, black bears, and wild turkeys, flourish among the rich growth of an oak-hickory forest. In season, bushes and wildflowers bloom along the Drive and trails and fill the open spaces. Apple trees, stone foundations, and cemeteries are reminders of the families who once called this place home. Shenandoah National Park has many stories waiting to be told, and a world of beauty that can renew and bring peace to the spirit.

Facilities and Services

Includes visitor centers, bookstores, campgrounds, showers and laundries, picnic areas, gift shops, lodges, cabins, restaurants, gas station, ATMs, waysides, campstores, a stable, & restrooms.

- All facilities and services are available mid-May through late October.
- Some are also available April, May, and November. Plan to obtain all food, gas, and lodging outside of the park in December, January, February, and March.
- Telephone (540) 999-3500 for the most current information.

www.nps.gov/shen

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Visitors can participate in ranger-guided activities, view audio-visual programs or exhibits at visitor centers, fish, enjoy the panoramic views from overlooks, hike to peaks and waterfalls, or just plain relax in the peaceful surroundings. Continuing a tradition set by George Freeman Pollock, who founded a resort at Skyland long before Shenandoah National Park was established, DNC Parks & Resorts at Shenandoah, Inc, the park's concessioner offers a variety of activities for visitors in spring, summer, and fall providing a terrific way to have fun and learn more about the park's history and wildlife as well as regional arts, music and crafts.

For a Calendar of Events, visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/shen.

A LITTLE HISTORY

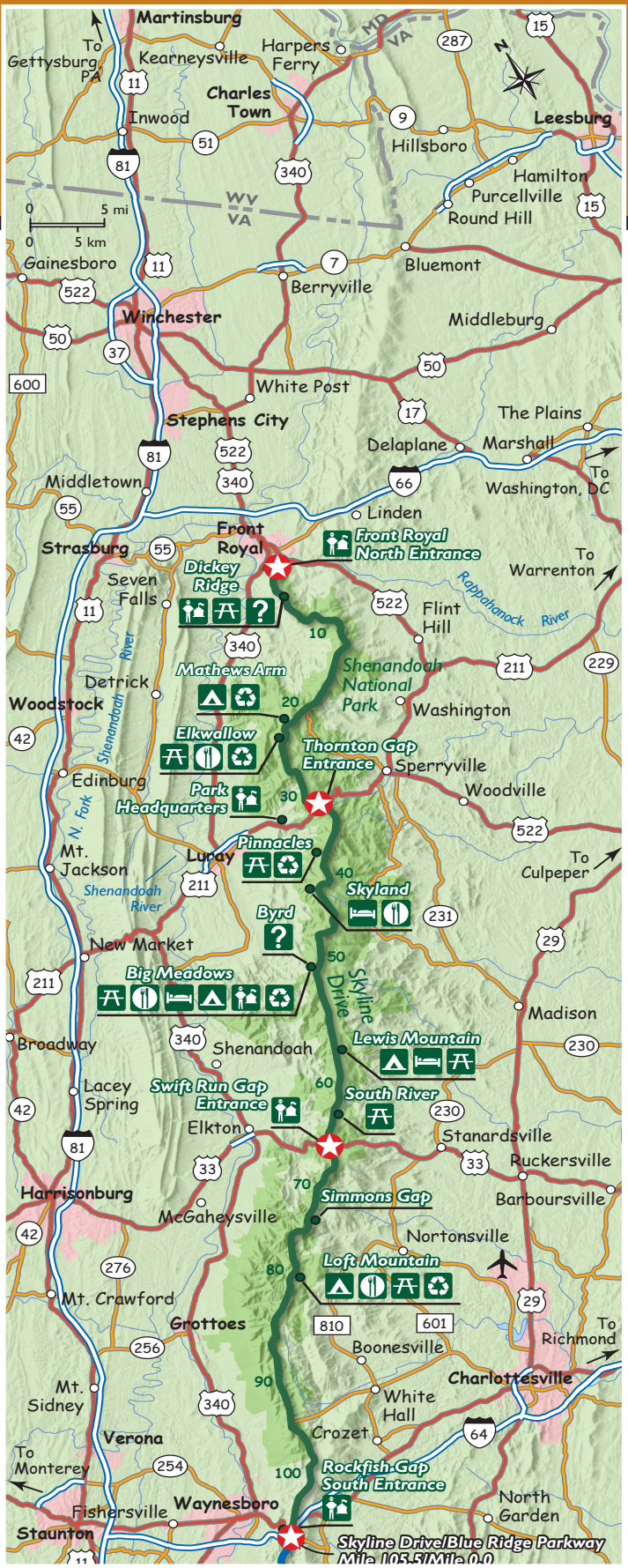
In 1926, U.S. Congress authorized creation of Shenandoah National Park. Today 197,000 acres of eastern deciduous forest are a sanctuary for more than 100 varieties of trees, 200 bird species, and 1,100 flowering plants.

Lands were gradually purchased using private donations and through condemnation using states funds. On December 26, 1935, Virginia gave the deeds to the Federal Government, formally establishing the park. In 1936, Shenandoah was dedicated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt for the recreation and re-creation found here. Visit Shenandoah and step back in time. Over 400 buildings and structures within the Skyline Drive Historic District are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as being nationally significant for their architecture and association with the history of the 1920s and 1930s.

Today, approximately 1.2 million visitors come to Shenandoah each year to enjoy this natural wonder. It is our hope that this park, created as a peaceful refuge for nearby urban populations, will continue to offer relaxation, recreation, and inspiration for many generations to come.

Shenandoah Region:

Near Skyline Drive & Shenandoah National Park



GETTYSBURG, PA

Relive the history, experience the passion. Discover the new Gettysburg museums, tours, Pres. Eisenhower's home, wineries, farm markets, shopping and more. Visit www.gettysburg.travel or call 800-337-5015 for a free travel guide.

WINCHESTER/FREDERICK CO., VA

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

Courtyard by Marriott - Where the Shenandoah Valley begins among Winchester's famous historic homes, museums, apple and fruit orchards and Civil War battlefields. (540) 678-8822.

Dinosaur Land - 3848 Stonewall Jackson Hwy, White Post, VA 22663. Intersection 522, 340, & 277. 8 miles south of Winchester, VA. Over 50 Dinosaurs, gift shop. www.dinosaurland.com (540) 869-2222.

Hilton Garden Inn - Full-service hotel, within walking distance of restaurants, shops & entertainment venues. Complimentary fitness center, heated pool, & whirlpool. www.winchester.hgi.com (540) 722-8881.

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley - Anchors a regional history museum complex including Glen Burnie Historic House & 6 acres of formal gardens. Open Tues-Sun 10 am - 4 pm. www.shenandoahmuseum.org (888) 556-5799.

Wingate by Wyndham - Just off Interstate 81, a perfect location for exploring the rich culture and history of the Shenandoah Valley. Pet friendly. Free WiFi. (540) 678-4283.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

- PICNIC AREA
- RECYCLE AREA
- RANGER STATION
- LODGING
- TENT AREA
- INFORMATION
- FOOD
- AIRPORT
- PARKWAY ACCESS

SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA

Whatever the season you will love Shenandoah County! Golfing, skiing, history, antiquing, wineries, historic towns, festivals and caverns. There's only one Shenandoah County in the Shenandoah Valley! www.shenandoahtravel.org (888) 367-3965.

WOODSTOCK, VA

Located on Rt. 11, I-81 exit 283.

Hampton Inn & Suites - 1150 Motel Dr. off I-81 exit 283. Free hot breakfast, free Wi-Fi, indoor pool, meeting rooms. www.hamptoninnwoodstock.com (540) 459-7111.

FRONT ROYAL, VA

Located at Milepost 0, Front Royal is a stepping on and off point for a wonderful and spectacular Skyline Drive tour through the Shenandoah National Park and the Blue Ridge Parkway. www.discoverfrontroyal.com (800) 338-2576.

ATTRACTIONS

Skyline Caverns - US 340, 1 mile south of Front Royal. Open all year. Miniature train, gift shop, fast food, country store, rock shop. Guided tour is impressive & educational. Unusual Anthodite formations. www.skylinecaverns.com (800) 296-4545.

LODGING & RECREATION

Front Royal Canoe Co. - Canoe, tube, raft, & kayak trips on the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. Located 3 mi. south of Front Royal on Rt. 340. Open Daily, 9-6 weekdays, 7-7 weekends. www.frontroyalcanoe.com (540) 635-5440.

Hampton Inn - 9800 Winchester Rd. .01 mi. S of I-66 from N. entrance Shenandoah Nat'l Park. Newly renovated, suite shop, fitness center, indoor pool, business center, free hot breakfast, Wi-Fi, HHonors Points. www.FrontRoyal.HamptonInn.com (540) 635-1882.

Quality Inn - 10 Commerce Ave, N entrance Shen Natl Park, bike parking, free breakfast, pool, restaurant, LCD TV - HBO, free WiFi, laundry, renovated. www.qualityinn-frontroyal.com (540) 635-3161.

0 **Junction US 340 and Skyline Drive**. From Front Royal east 35 miles to Middleburg. 63 mi. to Washington D.C.; southeast 18 mi. to Washington, VA; north 21 mi. to Winchester.

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

Winchester-Frederick County, VA



Located at the top of the Shenandoah Valley and just minutes from Shenandoah National Park, Winchester-Frederick County is a choice destination for visitors who appreciate friendly, relaxing towns with big city amenities and the rural countryside. Take in the sheer scenic beauty, premiere shopping and dining destinations, family-friendly festivals, outdoor recreational activities, farm markets, live theatre, historical attractions, and musical events that await your enjoyment in the city and county known for apples, the Civil War, Patsy Cline, George Washington, the Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival and much more.

We are 18 miles north of the Skyline Drive, via US 522 and I-81 Exit 313 (313B if heading south)

Contact INFO

Winchester-Frederick County Visitors Center
1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Winchester, VA 22601

877-871-1326

www.visitwinchesterva.com

2.8 **Shenandoah Valley Overlook** provides a sweeping view across the valley to Signal Knob, a Civil War communications post to the right on Massanutten Mountain. The mountain divides the valley and the Shenandoah River, with the south fork on the near side and the north fork on the far side. The two forks meet north of Front Royal.

4.5 **Dickey Ridge Visitor Center**. Exhibits, movie, publications, water, comfort stations and picnic grounds. Alt. 1,940.

6.8 **Gooney Run Overlook** gives a view across the valley and towards 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. Alt. 3,385 ft.

22.2 **Mathews Arm Campground** is open late May through October. Tent and trailer sites, 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, water and comfort station.

● WASHINGTON, VA

12 miles east of Skyline Drive on US 211.

Caledonia Farm B&B - 1812 Historic landmark. Adj. Shen. Pk. Romantic honeymoon suite & 2 rooms. AC/fireplaces/bikes/full breakfast/hospitality. www.bnb1812.com (800) BNB-1812.

28.4 **Beahms Gap** provides access to the Appalachian Trail and shorter trails.

● LURAY-PAGE COUNTY, VA

Nestled between the Blue Ridge & Massanutten Mountains, Page Valley is a beautiful escape any time of the year. "Once you visit us, you may never want to leave." www.LurayPage.com (888) 743-3915.

ATTRACTIONS

Luray Caverns - Eastern America's largest and most popular caverns. A U.S. Natural Landmark featuring the world's only Stalacpipe Organ. Skyline Drive and Shenandoah National Park 10 min; I-81, 15 min. www.luraycaverns.com (540) 743-6551.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Allstar Lodging Vacation Cabins - 100+ unique vacation rentals. 1-10 bdr. sleep 2-30 guests. In Luray, near Caverns, Skyline Drive, mountain views, riverfront, fireplace, hot tub, Jacuzzi, swimming pool, kitchen, open yr. round, pets welcome. www.allstarlodging.com or Toll Free (866) 780-7827.

Front Royal, VA



Welcome to Front Royal, Virginia the northern Gateway to Shenandoah National Park and the Canoe Capital of Virginia. Steeped in rich history and natural beauty this thriving community boasts attractions and amenities for everyone.

The Blue Ridge Mountains meet the Shenandoah River in Front Royal beckoning you to discover miles of parkland, hiking trails, electrifying waterfalls and wildlife viewing.

Outfitters rent canoes, kayaks, rafts, and tubes for floating down the Shenandoah, its beauty celebrated in song. Taste and tour at World-class Wineries, and play the greens at five award-winning Golf destinations. Live, Shop, Play and Visit Historic Downtown Front Royal located just one mile north of Shenandoah National Park. Highlights include museums, antiques, fine art, estate jewelry, live music and do-it-yourself crafts.

Front Royal, Virginia is your northern Gateway to Shenandoah National Park and the Canoe Capital of Virginia!

Enjoy an eclectic mix of restaurants and relax in the Village Commons, a favorite spot for events, concerts and meeting friends. Take a rest from your adventures at one of our many bed & breakfasts, motels or campgrounds.

Contact INFO

For Details on Attractions, Events Lodging and a Free Visitors Package E-mail: tourism@frontroyalva.com

800-338-2576

www.discoverfrontroyal.com

Luray Caverns Motels - Opposite each caverns entrance. Quiet, scenic locations with Blue Ridge Mountain views. Discount food coupons, free WiFi, pools. Golf packages at Caverns Country Club Resort. (540) 743-6551; (888) 941-4531.

The Mimslyn Inn - Circa 1931."Vintage Southern Hospitality". Comfortable, inviting, and ready for you to experience. 401 W. Main St. www.mimslyninn.com or (540) 743-5105.

Shenandoah River Outfitters & River Log Cabins - Canoe, kayak, raft, tube the Shenandoah or stay in the river cabins. www.shenandoahriver.com (800) 6-CANOE2.

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park - 5 miles from Drive on US 211 West. Beautiful mountain views. All facilities for RV's or tents. Pool, themed mini golf, 3 types of cabins, water slide. Late Mar-Nov. www.campluray.com. Reservations (800) 420-6679.

● SHENANDOAH CAVERNS, VA

5 miles north of New Market, I-81 Exit 269.

Shenandoah Caverns - Thrilling visitors from around the world, Shenandoah Caverns is the only cavern in Virginia with elevator service. Explorers of every age and ability will discover an underground world of wonder. With level walkways and no stairs, only our sights are breathtaking! Four attractions, one low price. American Celebration on Parade, Main Street of Yesteryear and the Yellow Barn. Open all year. www.shenandoahcaverns.com Toll free: 888-4CAVERN.

Shenandoah Valley Travel Association - ***Request an official Shenandoah Valley Travel Guide at www.VisitShenandoah.org or call (800) VISIT-SV. Mail requests to P.O. Box 1040, New Market, VA 22844.***

● NEW MARKET, VA

15 miles west of Skyline Drive on US 211. I-81 Exit 264.

Virginia Museum of the Civil War & New Market Battlefield State Historical Park - Museum exhibit presents entire Civil War in Virginia with focus exhibit on the VMI cadets in the Battle of New Market. Museum shop, picnic area, overlooks. Walking trail on actual battlefield. www.vmi.edu/newmarket (866) 515-1864.

31.3 **Thornton Gap Entrance** - West 9 mi. to Luray, 24 mi. to New Market. East 7 mi. to Sperryville, 26 mi. to Culpeper. Alt. 2,304. Thornton Gap is one of the major entrances to the park. Park rangers at the entrance station can answer your questions and give other assistance. 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 14-foot clearance.

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

Luray & Page County, VA



'Scenic and Beautiful' are top descriptions of Luray and Page County, Virginia

Scenic Page County offers year-round refreshment and relaxation–in addition to shopping and dining – in the charming communities of Luray, Shenandoah and Stanley. Area attractions include the legendary Luray Caverns; Shenandoah National Park and the Skyline Drive; miles of hiking and biking trails; golf and a variety of sports on the beautiful Shenandoah River. Look for locally-produced food on restaurant menus. Wisteria Farm & Vineyard is the perfect spot for a picnic and a day in the country. Page County makes a beautiful destination for holidays – spend a romantic weekend in TLC's Number Two Destination Wedding Locale. There are hotels, B&Bs and cabins galore! Your journey begins at the Luray-Page County Chamber of Commerce website at www.LurayPage.com. Call them at 888-743-3915.

Historic Culture

Friendly Atmosphere

Natural Beauty

Call for your free complete getaway planner.

Contact INFO

Visitors Center hours:
9am-5pm daily
18 Campbell St.
Luray, VA 22835

1-888-743-3915
www.CabinCapital.com
www.LurayPage.com



Flame Azalea is appropriately named for the clusters of brightly colored, 2-inch blooms that decorate the shrub from late spring to midsummer. The funnel-shaped flowers range in color from yellow to orange and deep red. Flame azalea is a versatile shrub that is stunning in almost any setting.

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 **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 **Entrance to Skyland**. Highest point on Skyline Drive at 3,680 feet. One of the primary tourist facility stops. Naturalist George Freeman Pollock who built Skyland resort in the 1890s, was a major proponent for establishing the park. Lodge, dining room, gift shop, riding horses, Stony Man Nature Trail and other trails, conducted hikes and evening programs.

Skyland Resort - Located in the Shenandoah National Park at MP 41.7. Open late March through late November. Features 177 rooms ranging from rustic cabins to cozy suites with fireplaces, full service restaurant, a gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts, & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Guided horse rides, special events & scheduled ranger activities. www.goshenandoah.com Call (877) 247-9261.

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), a 1.3 mile loop, passes through an old orchard and the remains of a grove of ancient hemlocks. It is an accessible trail (with assistance), with 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. Another trail leads to Bettys Rock, 0.8 mile round trip.

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 the Drive, cascades 70 feet over greenstone. Round trip from the parking area is 1.4 miles.

51 **Big Meadows** offers a multitude of activities and services at three sites, all connected by a network of trails. Byrd Visitor Center is one of the park's two major information facilities, providing exhibits on the area's human and natural history; film and ranger programs; sales outlet for publications and maps; conducted hikes; and self-guiding nature trail. The wayside facilities include a coffee shop, camp store, gift shop and service station. One mile from the Drive, using either entrance, is Big Meadows Lodge with rooms, dining room and gift shop open in spring, summer and fall. Big Meadows Campground has tent and trailer sites, trailer sewage disposal station, showers, laundry, ice, firewood, picnic ground and the summer campfire program. During the summer and fall, campsites at the campground may be available by reservation only. Byrd Visitor Center, the Big Meadows Campground, the Lodge, and wayside are usually closed in winter. Byrd Visitor Center is open winter weekends, weather and drive conditions permitting. Please call the park for current information of if you plan to visit in winter. Shenandoah National Park Headquarters: (540) 999-3500.

Big Meadows Lodge - Located in Shenandoah National Park at MP 51. Open mid-May through early November. Features 97 rooms from rustic cabins to cozy suites with fireplaces, full service restaurant & bar with entertainment 7 days a week. Gift shop with handcrafted items and special gifts. www.goshenandoah.com Call (877) 247-9261.

DID YOU KNOW?

Limberlost Trail (Milepost 43), is often enjoyed by people with mobility challenges. This circuit hike of 1.3 miles is for people of all ages and has a 5'-wide crushed greenstone walkway on a gentle grade with frequent benches, a boardwalk, and a bridge. The trail passes through forest and a stand of mountain laurel - stunningly beautiful when it blooms in June.



Many NPS-managed campsites can be reserved six months in advance. To check availability or make a reservation visit www.recreation.gov or call 1-877-444-6777.

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.

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

62.5 **South River** is a fine place to stop for a picnic and then take a hike to South River Falls, 2.6 miles round trip.

CULPEPER, VA

Just a short distance from Skyline Drive via Rt. 211 and 522. Civil War battlefields, miles of scenic byways, country inns, wineries, and unparalleled shopping and dining. www.visitculpeperva.com Call (540) 727-0611.

MADISON, VA

Madison Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center - 110 A N Main Street, Madison, VA 22727. www.madison-va.com (540) 948-4455.

Shenandoah Hills Campground - Open year round. Rt. 29, 11 mi N. of Ruckersville. RV's, cabins, tents. Propane, dump, 50A, 30A. www.shenandoahhills.com (540) 948-4186.

ORANGE, VA

Premier historic sites, award-winning wineries, fine dining, first-class accommodations & unsurpassed beauty can all be found in Orange County! www.visitorangevirginia.com (877) 222-8072.

65.5 **Swift Run Gap**. Junction US 33. East 12 miles to Standardsville, west 7 mi. to Elkton, 24 mi. to Harrisonburg. South 25 mi. to Grottoes. Alt. 2,365 Park Rangers at the entrance station can answer your questions and give other assistance.

Culpeper, VA



Just a short drive from the Parkway lies Culpeper, a historic and revitalized Virginia town filled with world class restaurants, vintage diners, local art, antiques, unique shops, and more. Enjoy classic movies on the big screen at the beautiful Library of Congress Packard Campus Theater or a stage performance at the newly restored art-deco State Theatre.

Visit website to check out the NEW Culpeper Videos!

The Civil War battlefields around Cedar Mountain, Brandy Station, and Kelly's Ford are well preserved and perfect for rediscovering the history that surrounds you, and the Graffiti House in Brandy Station is a must-see. Visit the Museum of Culpeper History for a look at Culpeper's history from pre-historic times through the 21st century.

Culpeper lies at the foothills of the Blue Ridge, and is an ideal base to hike, bike, paddle, fish, and horseback ride. Enjoy a fine Virginia wine at our award-winning wineries, or visit Virginia's only legal moonshine at Belmont Farm Distillery. Whatever you're looking for, Culpeper has so many things to love!

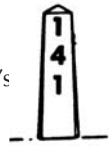
Contact INFO

Culpeper Tourism
and Visitors Center
111 S. Commerce Street
Culpeper, VA 22701

Toll FREE – 844-490-2577
www.visitculpeperva.com

SPECIAL INFORMATION:

MILEPOSTS:



Along Skyline Drive and the Blue Ridge Parkway, you will see numbered mileposts. The Blue Ridge Parkway's zero milepost marker is at Rockfish Gap, immediately south of Shenandoah National Park. Each mile is numbered progressively southward to the Blue Ridge Parkway's southernmost entrance at Cherokee, North Carolina.

● HARRISONBURG, VA

Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center - located inside the Hardesty-Higgins House, 23 miles from Skyline Drive, on 33 West to visit us for shopping, museums, and local eateries. Plan your adventure in historic Harrisonburg by visiting the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, the place where history and hospitality meet. 212 S. Main St. Open daily 9am-5pm www.VisitHarrisonburgVA.com (540) 432-8935.

Old Massanutten Lodge B & B - Exit at MP 65.7 at Swift Run. "We're Here To Pamper You." 3 elegant rooms, w/ baths, some whirlpools, full gourmet breakfasts. Close to US 33 & I-81 Exit 247. www.oldmassanuttenlodge.com (540) 269-8800.

Stonewall Jackson Inn - Stay Here! Affordable, 5 star & top rated by TripAdvisor & B&B.com. Harrisonburg's lively Historic District, 10 rooms. Check our happy guest reviews! EZ on/off @ Skyline MP 65. www.StonewallJacksonInn.com (800) 445-5330.

The Village Inn & Restaurant - I-81 Exit 243. Scenic rural setting, free HBO, relaxing pool and hot tub, deluxe playground, wireless internet, in-room coffee, microwave & refrigerator. AAA 3 Diamond. Family owned for 3 generations. www.thevillageinn.travel (540) 434-7355.

● GROTTOES, VA

From MP 0, 4 miles West of the Skyline Drive via US 250 and 12 miles North via US 340.

Grand Caverns - America's oldest continuously operated show cave & voted #2 in U.S. by Parade magazine. Experience nature's handiwork. Open daily. www.grandcaverns.com (888) 430-CAVE.

66.3 **Hightop Mountain** Parking, at an elevation of 2,637 feet, is on the west side of the 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.

73.2 **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 wild canyon country of the Big Run watershed.

Harrisonburg, VA



Just minutes from the Shenandoah National Park, this historic town is a cultural destination renowned for its farm-to-table cuisine, shopping, vibrant arts and entertainment, community events, and beautifully preserved buildings. A 2014 Great American Main Street Award winner, Harrisonburg's options for entertainment are endless, including monthly First Fridays Downtown art exhibits, an independent theater, concerts, and community festivals. You can stroll through gardens at the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum or visit the Explore More Discovery Museum and the Harrisonburg Fire Department Museum. Harrisonburg is buzzing with a variety of green activities for all types of travelers, including fly-fishers, hikers, foodies, wine and beer connoisseurs, shopaholics, art enthusiasts, and more. This thriving city is home to a lively downtown district, breathtaking views, and endless entertainment fit for any traveler. Visit the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, the place where history and hospitality meet, located downtown and open daily from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

From Skyline Drive/ Shenandoah National Park – MP 65.5 take 33 West into Harrisonburg and follow the Visitor Center information signs.

Contact INFO

Harrisonburg Tourism
& Visitor Services
212 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

540-432-8935

www.visitharrisonburgva.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Shenandoah National Park has over 500 miles of trails. Over 30% of the trails are within designated wilderness areas. 101 miles are part of the Appalachian Trail.

79.5 **Loft Mountain**. Loft Mountain Campground has both tent and trailer sites, a trailer sewage disposal station, wayside facility with a camp store, gift shop, showers, laundry, ice, firewood, a self-guiding nature trail, and conducted programs in the summer. This campground usually closes in late October. Amphitheater; hikes in summer. Alt. 3,300

81.1 **Doyles River Trail** takes you to the upper falls, 2.6 miles round trip.

84.1 **Jones Run** is 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.

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

94.2 **Turk Gap** Parking Area is east of the Drive near a crossing of the Appalachian Trail.

98.9 **Calf Mountain Overlook** provides a spectacular 360 degree view.

● CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Follow signs toward Downtown to the Visitor Center (610 E Main Street) to get travel information, same-day lodging assistance and more! Open daily. www.VisitCharlottesville.org Toll free (877) 386-1103.

ATTRACTIONS

Barboursville Vineyards & Historic Ruins - 30 min E of Pkwy, Rt 33 at Rt 20. Tastings daily at Virginia's most honored winery, fine dining at Palladio Restaurant. Details & Calendar of Events. www.barboursvillewine.com Reservations (540) 832-3824.

Monticello, Home of Thomas Jefferson - 2 miles SE on Rte 53 off Rte 20 & I-64. Day passes include house tours. Special tours including the Behind-the-Scenes tour also offered daily. Visit website to book in advance. Cafe & The Shop at Monticello. 931 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Charlottesville, VA. www.monticello.org (434) 984-9800.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

English Inn - US 29N & US 250 bypass. Std & king rms. Incl. Full breakfast buffet, 24 hrs coffee/tea, heated indoor pool. Ask about packages & discounts. 2000 Morton Dr., Charlottesville, VA 22903. www.englishinncharlottesville.com (800) 786-5400 or (434) 971-9900.

Hilton Garden Inn Charlottesville - Mile 0, I-64E to exit 124. Restaurant, indoor pool, free HSIA, near Monticello & Downtown. www.stayHGI.com (434) 979-4442.

Hyatt Place - Located in the heart of Charlottesville and near the University of Virginia and Historic Downtown Pedestrian Mall. Free Wi-Fi. Pets OK. (434) 995-5200.

Super 8 Motel - Jct US 29N & US 250 bypass. Continental breakfast. Cable TV HBO. Interior corridors. 390 Greenbriar Dr. Charlottesville, VA 22901. (800) 800-8000 or (434) 973-0888.

● CROZET, VA

10 miles East of Parkway, Exit Milepost 0.

Montfair Resort Farm - 18 mi. from Parkway, MP 0. Nine mi. N. of Crozet. 8 eco-friendly vacation cabins by lake. Pets welcome. Hiking, fishing, canoes, mtn. bikes, WiFi at office. www.montfairresortfarm.com (434) 823-5202.

104.8 **Rockfish (South) Entrance Station** is staffed by the Park Service who can answer questions and provide assistance.

105.4 **Rockfish Gap**. Junction Skyline Drive, Blue Ridge Parkway, and US 250, west (on US 250) 4 mi. to Waynesboro, 15 mi. to Staunton. East (on 250) 20 to Charlottesville. I-64 also crosses the mountains here. Rockfish Gap starts, or ends Skyline Drive, depending on which way you are heading. The Drive runs directly into Blue Ridge Parkway, also administered by the National Park Service.

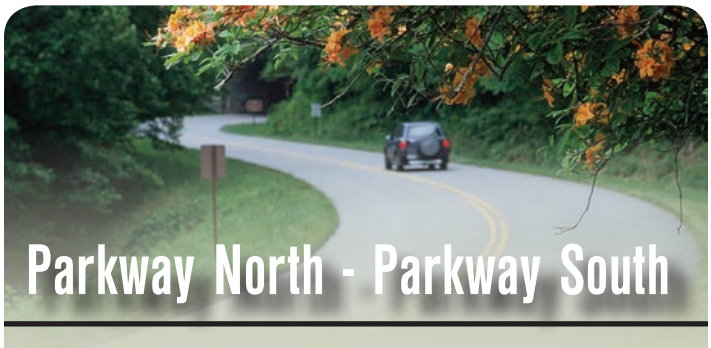


Female Northern Cardinal atop icy barbed-wire fence

THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

Many visitors want to know how to have the maximum experience on the Blue Ridge Parkway. In this day and age, people are busy and time is valuable. People are inundated with information and want to be "connected" to their sources of information as much as possible. Increasingly, people are also satisfied with getting their experiences from secondary sources, rather than the real thing. A Parkway experience defies all of these trends. At its best, a Parkway experience needs to be just the opposite… slow and relaxed, unconnected from the rest of the world's hectic information, and real… lots of sunshine, wind, and close-up views of the cultural and natural world of the Blue Ridge.

This special road hugs the crest of the world's oldest mountain range and winds through the coves and forest slopes that make up so much of southern Appalachia. That kind of experience tends to stamp an impression on your mind… it should be an experience that is unforgettable.



Parkway North - Parkway South

At each Parkway entrance a directional sign indicates 'north' or 'south'. North, toward the north end of the Parkway, leads to Shenandoah National Park. South, toward the south end of the Parkway, leads to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Outstanding scenery and recreational opportunities make the Blue Ridge Parkway one of the most popular units of the National Park System. "America's Favorite Drive" winds its way 469 miles through mountain meadows and past seemingly endless vistas. Split-rail fences, old farmsteads and historic structures complement spectacular views of distant mountains and neighboring valleys.

The Parkway incorporates several recreation areas, some exceeding 6,000 acres. These parks within the Parkway have visitor centers, campgrounds, picnic areas, trails and, in many instances, concessioner-operated lodges, restaurants and other facilities.

Building the Parkway through mountainous terrain was a monumental labor. Authorized in the 1930s as a Depression-era public works project, the Parkway was more than a half-century in the making. It was the nation's first, and ultimately longest, rural parkway, connecting Shenandoah National Park in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina. Enduring standards for parkway engineering and design were pioneered here.

During your Parkway experience, keep in mind the pride, enjoyment, and responsibility that go along with it. Your pride in this place, whether you are a neighbor enjoying an afternoon drive or here from outside the region for the first time, is important and helps in protecting the Parkway. Your enjoyment may come from the streams, trails, wildlife, and historic structures, or from the intangible things like cool air, vistas, or the absolute serenity of the place. Your responsibility comes in the stewardship that is required of all visitors to all National Park sites. This place cannot stay the way we know it without community, regional, and individual help.

It has been noted that "too many places we see in America today look like too many places we see in America today." Interstates, inner cities, subdivisions… all look very much alike no matter where you are in our country. But America's national parks aren't like that. They are places where visitors have unique experiences, remarkable experiences, and experiences that are unattainable anywhere else.

However you choose to "maximize" your Parkway experience this year, do it thoughtfully, do it safely, and take full advantage of all that this special place has to offer.

Gas Availability

No gasoline is available on the Parkway. Gas is available not far off the Parkway at any of these US or State Highway intersections:

Virginia

US 250	MP 0	less than 3 miles west
US 60	MP 45.6	less than 5 miles west
US 501	MP 63.7	less than 2 miles south
VA 43	MP 90.9	less than 5 miles north
US 460	MP 106	less than 4 miles west
VA 24	MP 112.2	less than 2 miles east or west
US 220	MP 121.4	less than 5 miles north
US 58	MP 177.7	less than 1 mile east
US 52	MP 199.4	less than 1 mile north
VA 89	MP 215.8	less than 8 miles north

North Carolina

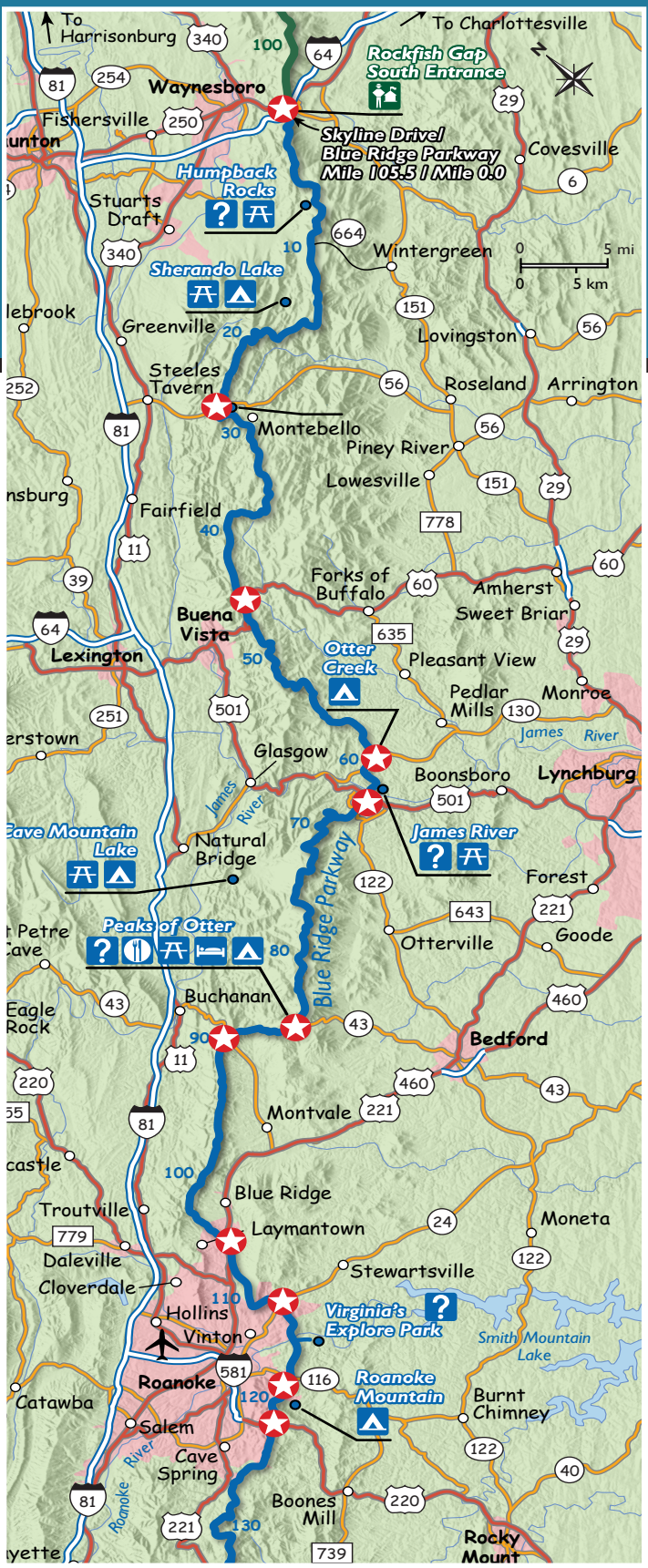
US 21	MP 229.7	less than 8 miles west
NC 18	MP 248.1	less than 3 miles west
NC 16	MP 261.2	less than 12 miles west
US 321	MP 291.8	less than 2 miles north or south
NC 181	MP 312	less than 3 miles north
NC 226	MP 330.9	less than 3 miles north
US 70	MP 382.5	less than 2 miles east or west
US 74A	MP 384.7	less than 3 miles south
US 25	MP 388.8	less than 1 mile south
		less than 3 miles north
NC 191	MP 393.6	less than 3 miles north
US 276	MP 411.8	less than 10 miles north
US 74/23	MP 443.1	less than 3 miles east
US 19	MP 455.7	less than 3 miles east

Updated 2-2015

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit www.nps.gov/blri

Blue Ridge Parkway Ridge Region:

Milepost 0, Rockfish Gap to Milepost 106, Roanoke, VA



Blue Ridge Parkway

Virginia and North Carolina



Motorcycles, cars and bicycles are common sights on the Parkway. Share the road.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a scenic highway that connects Shenandoah National Park and the Skyline Drive in Virginia, with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee. The Parkway, which traverses Virginia and western North Carolina, encompasses a 469-mile drive that includes many areas of natural and cultural significance.

The majority of the Parkway in Virginia runs through the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests and into the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina along mountain crests. The road itself is a two-lane highway with a 45 mph speed limit, but for travelers who enjoy "driving trips," traveling the Parkway can be a very special experience.

The attractions along the Virginia portion of the Parkway differ slightly from those on the North Carolina side. In Virginia, the re-created mountain farms near Humpback Rocks at the beginning of the Parkway and Mabry Mill, further south, give visitors a glimpse of traditional mountain life in the early days of settlement. In North Carolina, Linville Falls, the Cradle of Forestry, and other natural wonders, feature the natural environment. In addition to the stops right along the Parkway itself, the road is next to historic towns from top to bottom, making for fascinating exploration of the heritage and culture of the region along the way. The headquarters of the Blue Ridge Parkway is located in Asheville, North Carolina, a city well known to literary figures including Carl Sandburg, Thomas Wolfe and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Exploration of their homes and haunts in the Asheville area presents an interesting side trip and a one or two day break from driving.

MAP KEY: Refer to page 23 for explanation of symbols

0 **Rockfish Gap** - Junction Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive, US 250 Crossover. West 4 miles to Waynesboro, 15 mi. to Staunton and 60 miles to Monterey. East 20 mi. to Charlottesville. Alt. 1,909. Afton. VA Exit US 250, MP 0.

● STAUNTON, VA

Staunton's historic downtown delights visitors with its vibrant arts scene & great restaurants. The amazing architecture & compact downtown make for great walking & exploring opportunities. www.VisitStaunton.com (540) 332-3972.

Hampton Inn Staunton - 15 mins from MP 0, I-64W to I-81S, exit 220. Luxury rooms, free hot breakfast, fitness room, outdoor pool. HHonors. (540) 886-7000.

Stonewall Jackson Hotel - In historic downtown Staunton, 15 minutes from the Parkway, we offer 124 cozy guestrooms & restaurant. www.stonewalljacksonhotel.com (540) 885-4848.

Sunspots Studios - 202 S Lewis St, Staunton, VA - Live glassblowing 7 days/wk until 4pm. Artisan gifts made on site. Watch art happen! Hours: 10-6 Mon.-Sat.; 11:30-5 Sun. www.sunspots.com (540) 885-0678.

● WAYNESBORO, VA

4 miles west of Parkway via US 250 or I-64. Shops, restaurants, gas, and outdoor recreation. Information center located at exit 99 off of I-64. www.VisitWaynesboro.net or (540) 942-6512.

DID YOU KNOW?

The maximum speed limit on the Parkway is 45 mph. Drive Safe!

Best Western Plus Waynesboro - I-64 Exit 94. Our award-winning hotel is just 5 minutes from MP 0 of the Parkway! Pet-friendly, beautiful mountain views, hot breakfast, indoor pool & many restaurants nearby. www.bwwaynesboro.com (540) 942-1100.

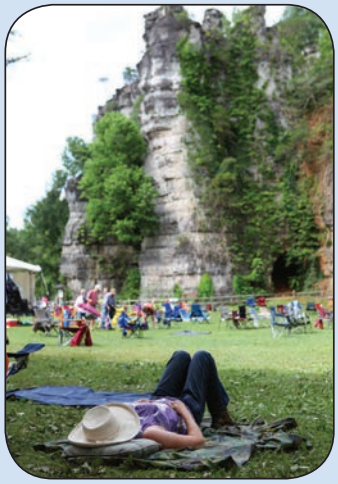
Colony House Motel - 494 Three Notchd Mtn Hwy. MP 0. 500 ft from Parkway entrance. Locally owned, 26 rooms, laundry, internet, cozy, great views. (540) 942-4156.

Days Inn Waynesboro - I-64 exit 94. 5 miles from Parkway. Newly renovated oversized guest rooms boast panoramic mountain views. Complimentary continental breakfast & outdoor pool. 2060 Rosser Ave. (540) 943-1101.

Hampton Inn - Luxury rooms, free hot breakfast, free high speed wireless internet access, indoor pool, fitness room, near hospital. Suites available. Near P. Buckley Moss Museum. (540) 213-9500.

Quality Inn - 4.5 miles from MP 0, 1-64 Exit 96. Newly renovated rooms, features hot breakfast, outdoor pool, and free high speed internet. (540) 942-1171.

Staunton / Augusta County / Waynesboro, VA



Located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley where the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive converge-Staunton, Augusta County and Waynesboro offer the perfect base for exploring the Valley.

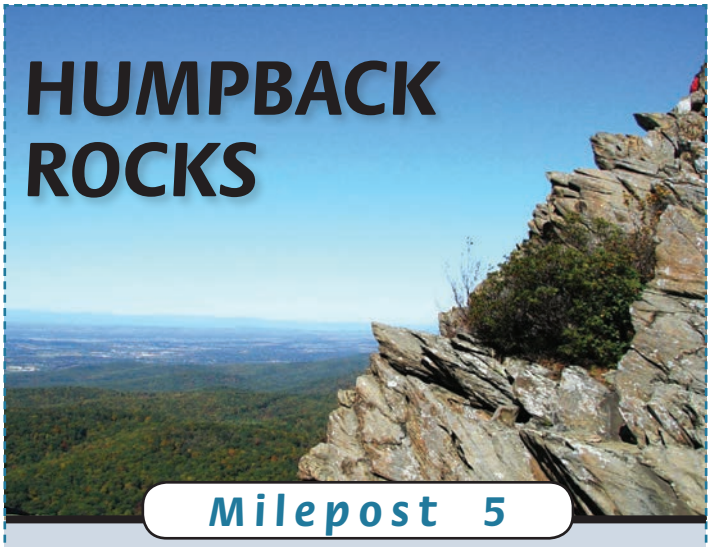
Enjoy a craft beer in our small town breweries. Sample shrimp and grits, homemade doughnuts or smoked brisket at one of our many food trucks. Experience the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse, the world's only re-creation of Shakespeare's legendary indoor theater. Try your hand at fly fishing along the South River or plan your next hike on the Appalachian Trail in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Discover 'beyond organic' farming at Polyface Farms. Gaze at the limestone towers of Natural Chimneys, and camp beneath the stars.

Don't miss our farmers' markets, brick-lined downtowns, art festivals, live music and nationally-recognized Virginia wine…Staunton, Augusta County and Waynesboro invite you for your next road trip.

With natural wonders as your backdrop, experience a road trip filled with outdoor recreation, relaxation and award-winning downtowns just minutes away.

540-332-3971
www.VAValley.com

HUMPBACK ROCKS



Milepost 5

Travelers heading south from Rockfish Gap experience a scenic drive through a mountain forest interspersed with agricultural lands. Climbing and descending ridge tops and gaps offers magnificent views of the Shenandoah Valley to the west and Rockfish Valley to the east, along with the flora and fauna of Appalachian hardwood forests. This is a region that was once cleared for agriculture, trade routes, timber harvesting, and subsistence living. Now it supports mature forests, designated wilderness, US Forest Service lands, and the return of many species of wildlife not seen in years.

Humpback Rocks at Milepost 5.8 is perhaps the best representation of the varied combination of natural and cultural resources anywhere along the Parkway corridor. The prominent rock outcrop was a landmark guiding wagon trains over the Howardsville Turnpike in the 1840s. A portion of the historic trace still exists. This was a major route across the narrow Blue Ridge until railroads came through the mountain gaps. The view from "the rocks" is spectacular any time of the year.

Adjacent to Humpback Rocks Visitor Center, an outdoor farm museum is surrounded by nearly 3,000 acres of predominantly forested lands. Early Parkway designers collected buildings from nearby and assembled them here in an arrangement that allows for an easy stroll along the pathway. The farm museum consists of a single-room log cabin and a series of outbuildings that represent elements of regional architecture of the late nineteenth century. Costumed interpreters provide demonstrations, including weaving, basket making and gardening. Interpretation focuses on and emphasizes the generalized life styles of subsistence farmers.

A visit to Humpback Rocks will help travelers better understand the difficulties and advantages associated with farming and living in these mountains and get a sense of how transportation routes across the mountains linked residents and communities in the region. Participate in "hands on" cultural demonstrations depicting domestic and farm chores including gardening and music.

NELSON COUNTY, VA

From MP 0, 13.5, 16 or 27, explore 471 miles of wineries, breweries, cidery, unique lodging, restaurants & shopping. Info: Nelson County Dept of Tourism, PO Box 636, Dept. BRPA, Lovingston, VA 22949. www.nelsoncounty.com. For free travel & event information, e-mail: info@nelsoncounty.org (434) 263-7015.

5 - 9.3 **Humpback Rocks**. 800 acres. Visitor Center and mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), Picnic area, comfort station (Milepost 8.4).

8.8 **Greenstone Parking Overlook**. Self-guiding nature trail.

13.5 **Reids Gap**. Route 664.

Cabin Creekwood - "Your Truly Restful Getaway!" 2 miles west of Parkway on Rt. 664. Year round, quiet, secluded, fully furnished resort, mt. cabins. Pool. 44 Creekwood Ln., Lyndhurst, VA 22952. www.cabincreekwood.com (888) 942-2246.

WINTERGREEN, VA

5.5 miles east on Route 664 and Route 151, exit at Milepost 13.5.

Wintergreen Resort - Lodging, dining, 45 holes of golf, tennis, pools, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, ice skating, spa, hiking, fishing. www.wintergreenresort.com (434) 325-2200, (800) 266-2444.

16 **VA 814 to Sherando Lake**. (4.5 mi.) in George Washington National Forest. Swimming, picnicking, camping.

LOVE, VA

West of Parkway, exit at Milepost 16.

Royal Oaks Cabins - Love, VA. Exit at Milepost 16, 500 ft west on Route 814. Royal Oaks Cabins Store, Deli, Gifts, Weddings - "Come in Love. Stay in Love. Leave in Love." Experience Love in our 9 cabins and 3 large chalets with mtn. views, fireplaces, hot tubs, equipped kitchens, Free Wi-Fi, TV/VCR/DVD. Open year round. www.vacabins.com (540) 943-7625.

27 **Tye River Gap**. Rt. 56 Crossover, west to Vesuvius, Steeles Tavern, east to Montebello. Alt. 2,969.

DID YOU KNOW?

Each year over 30,000 school children in Virginia and North Carolina receive educational programs in their classrooms from Blue Ridge Parkway Rangers.

● STEELES TAVERN, VA

West of Parkway on VA 56, exit at Milepost 27.

Osceola Mill Restaurant & Inn - Water-powered mill, now serves as a fine dining restaurant, B&B and Crabtree Falls cabin rentals built by the McCormicks, inventors of the reaper. Featured restaurant and B&B National Geographic Mag. July/09. MP 27, 5 min RT 56 W www.osceolamill.com (540) 377-6455.

Sugar Tree Inn - 3/4 mi W. of MP 27 is a haven of natural beauty called The Sugar Tree. Set on 28 acres at 2800 feet, the inn is a place of peace and tranquility. Relax in rustic elegance and enjoy 40-mile views from our front porch or hot tub. Wood-burning fireplaces in every room. A full country breakfast is included; gourmet dining is available with 24 hours advance reservation. www.sugartreeinn.com (800) 377-2197.

● MONTEBELLO, VA

2.5 miles east of Parkway on VA 56, exit at MP 27.

Montebello Resort - Exit MP 27, Rt 56 East 3 miles. Full service campground with shaded sites for RV's, campers, tents (open Apr-Oct). Cabin rentals available year round. Fee-based trout ponds, no license required. Country store w/fuel, groceries & many gift items, open year round. For more info, visit www.MontebelloVA.com For reservations call (540) 377-2650.

34.4 **Yankee Horse Parking Area**. Logging Railroad Exhibit.

45.6 **US-60 Crossover**. East to Amherst, West to Buena Vista and Lexington.

● BUENA VISTA, VA

Milepost 45.6 - US 60 Crossover West to Buena Vista.

Glen Maury Park Campground - 10th St., 5 miles from Parkway. 315 acres with 52 sites or 250 units, group camping. Clean modern facilities. LP gas. (800) 555-8845.

● LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA & ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY

Natural Wonders, Great American Heroes & 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&B's. www.lexingtonvirginia.com (877) 453-9822.

Hampton Inn Col Alto - 401 E. Nelson St., Lexington MP 45. Historic manor rooms and modern rooms. Pool. www.hampton-inn.com/hi/lexington-historic (540) 463-2223.

60.8 **Otter Creek.** Campground, gift/craft shop.

Nelson County, VA

Experience the Sunrise Side of the Blue Ridge



From milepost 0 of the Blue Ridge Parkway to the mighty James River, plan to experience a getaway full of adventure and relaxation. Remember how to have fun in our 471 square mile playground, then rest at a unique local bed and breakfast or cabin.

Relax and unwind as you marvel at Nature's bounty. Whether it's the pink and white of the spring apple blossoms or the spectacular fall foliage, the backdrop is picture perfect for your vacation.

Be entertained with the simple things – take time to relax, enjoy the scenery, the local music scene or the farm-to-the-table culinary delights from local restaurants, wineries, breweries, cidery or distillery.

For free travel and event information:
email: info@nelsoncounty.org or call: 434-263-7015

Contact INFO

Nelson County Tourism
Post Office Box 636
Dept. BRPD • Lovingston, VA 22949

434-263-7015
www.nelsoncounty.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Natural Bridge

George Washington surveyed the rock bridge, and Thomas Jefferson liked it so much he purchased it from King George III in 1774. Experience "the most sublime of nature's works"

–Thomas Jefferson

● POCAHONTAS COUNTY, WV

Come visit "Nature's Mountain Playground." Fall drives, great fishing & bicycling, fun events. Greenbrier River Trail, Green Bank Telescope, Cass Scenic Railroad State Park. www.NaturesMountainPlayground.com (800) 336-7009.

61.6 **Rt 130 Crossover** East to Lynchburg 20 mi. West to Glasgow 9 mi. and Natural Bridge 15 mi.

Lynchburg NW/Blue Ridge Parkway KOA - 6252 Elon Rd. Monroe, VA. MP 61.5 - Rt. 130 East, 1 mile from Parkway. Open all year! - RV/tent/cabins - big rigs welcome! www.lynchburgkoa.com (800) 562-8717.

63.7 **Visitor Center and exhibits**. Self-guiding nature trail.

● NATURAL BRIDGE, VA

15 miles west of Parkway via US 501 or VA 130, exit at Milepost 61.6 or 63.7. I-81 Exits 175 or 180.

ATTRACTIONS

Natural Bridge Park - Natural Wonder, Natural Beauty! Visit the monumental National Historic Landmark Natural Bridge and discover why photos don't do it justice, nor do words describe it, and why the awe-struck Thomas Jefferson bought it. Follow the Cedar Creek Trail beyond The Natural Bridge to the Monacan Indian Living History Exhibit, and Lace Falls. Be sure to visit the deep and majestic Caverns at Natural Bridge. Off the Blue Ridge Parkway (MP 61.6 & 63.7); I-81 exits 175 & 180. Hotel package deals & information at www.naturalbridgeva.com.

Natural Bridge Zoological Park - Discover the largest & most complete collection of birds & animals in the state of Virginia. Ride on an elephant, stand next to a giraffe, see a huge white tiger, hug baby llamas & donkeys. Enjoy monkeys, gibbons, & mandrill baboons. See Himalayan bears, pink flamingos, colorful macaws, huge alligators. Feed, pet, & photograph tame animals in Virginia's largest petting area. Safari gift shop, free picnic areas. Off I-81 between exits 175 & 180. 15 minutes off Parkway. Daily 9-6pm. www.naturalbridgezoo.com (540) 291-2420.

Lexington, Buena Vista & Rockbridge County



With two official Appalachian Trail Communities – Buena Vista and Glasgow – our beautiful, historic area welcomes recreation-lovers of all types. After a scenic day on the parkway, trail or river, come relax in one of our well-appointed vacation cabins, campgrounds, B&Bs or hotels. Rock out at one of the many music festivals at Glen Maury Park, or roll with a round of golf at The Vista Links, an 18-hole championship course.

Legendary history, awe-inspiring beauty and authentic experiences

In historic Lexington – one of "The 20 Best Small Towns to Visit in 2013" by Smithsonian Magazine, and once home to Robert E. Lee, Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson and George C. Marshall – you can visit the museums, houses and gravesites honoring these iconic leaders. Savor craft brews at Devils Backbone Outpost Brewery and Blue Lab Brewing Company, or taste local wines at Rockbridge Vineyard and Lexington Valley Vineyard. Hop aboard a horse-drawn carriage tour around downtown, then enjoy our charming specialty shops, art galleries and award-winning fine cuisine.

All around Rockbridge County, you'll find engaging attractions to suite every interest: Natural Bridge of Virginia, circa-1750 Wade's Mill, Cyrus McCormick Farm, Virginia Safari Park, Hull's Drive-In, the Brownsburg Museum and much more. Here, like so many other heroes, you'll feel right at home.

Stop by our Visitor Centers located at:
106 E. Washington St. in historic downtown Lexington
595 E. 29th St. (U.S. Rout 60) in Buena Vista, Mile Post 45.6
(Hours vary by season)

1-877-453-9822
www.lexingtonvirginia.com

Virginia Safari Park - Virginia's only 180-acre drive-thru zoo! Drive 3 miles of road where animals of all sizes, shapes and colors approach your vehicle in search of a tasty bucket of feed. See deer, camels, bison, zebras, elk, giraffe, and many more! 4 mi. North of Natural Bridge on Rt. 11. Left @ NB KOA. Open March-Nov. www.VirginiaSafariPark.com (540) 291-3205.

Wilderness Canoe Company - Offering canoe, kayak and tubing trips on the upper James River. Apr-Oct. www.wildernesscanoe.biz (540) 291-2295.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Natural Bridge Historic Hotel & Conference Center - Located adjacent to Natural Bridge Park, has accommodations to fit any budget; rooms with balconies, mountain views, and a veranda to take in the Blue Ridge vista; Colonial Dining Room & Red Fox Tavern, and facilities to accommodate groups, weddings, meetings, reunions. Off the Blue Ridge Parkway (MP 61.6 & 63.7); I-81 exits 175 & 180. Hotel package deals, reservations and events information at www.naturalbridgeva.com.

Natural Bridge KOA Campground - Rt. 130 west to The Natural Bridge, Rt. 11 North 4.5 miles, RV-tent-cabin-deluxe cabins. Open all year. www.naturalbridgekoa.com (800) 562-8514.

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park - Camping cabins & camping sites on the waterfront or wooded area. 16 Recreation Lane, Natural Bridge Station, VA 24579. www.campnbr.com (540) 291-2727.

63.7 **US 501 Crossover** West to Natural Bridge 15 miles. East to Lynchburg 22 miles. Alt. 670.

● LYNCHBURG, VA

"Discover History, Natural Beauty, Arts and Culture in Every Direction!" Lynchburg offers Six Historic Districts and many historical, cultural, and natural attractions located near the Blue Ridge Parkway. Specialty shopping, antiques, fine restaurants, and more than 2,200 guest rooms, including Bed & Breakfasts. Stop by our Visitor Information Center located at 12th & Church Streets. www.DiscoverLynchburg.org (800) 732-5821 or (434) 847-1811. E-mail: tourism@lynchburgchamber.org.

74.7 **Thunder Ridge Parking Area**. Ten minute loop trail to superb view of Arnold's Valley. Alt. 3,485.



Enjoy the view, watch the road!

Lynchburg, VA



We invite you to discover Lynchburg.

Discover Lynchburg's many unexpected pleasures just minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Savor a rich visual feast of historic architecture, diverse local cuisine and Antique and specialty shops. Lynchburg offers a vast array of treasures to satisfy every palate including The Lynchburg Museum, Point of Honor, Amazement Square, Old City Cemetery, some of the best hiking and biking trails and a bustling waterfront. Lynchburg's the perfect HUB to explore this extraordinary region that includes The National D-Day Memorial, Thomas Jefferson's private retreat – Poplar Forest, Appomattox Court House National Historical Park and the Museum of the Confederacy, Patrick Henry's Red Hill, Natural Bridge and much more.

Discover Lynchburg's exciting galleries and artist studios, acclaimed theatrical productions, a symphony, opera company, dance troupes, festivals and much more. Unique restaurants, cafes and the Community Market established in 1783.

Visit us on Facebook, Youtube, and Twitter

Contact INFO

discoverLynchburg
Lynchburg Visitor Information Center
216 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA

800-732-5821

www.DiscoverLynchburg.org



PEAKS OF OTTER

Milepost 86

Visitors to the Peaks of Otter gain a sense of both the history of community and the history of tourism in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. The community had its beginning in 1766 when Thomas Wood settled here from Pennsylvania. By the mid 1800s, there were twenty families, a school, and a church integrated into the business of tourism, providing food and labor for a large resort hotel.

Polly Woods' early tavern or "ordinary" provided the basic necessities for travelers as early as 1840 and is preserved at the Peaks of Otter as well. Visitors will get a sense that many of the things attracting them to the Peaks of Otter today have attracted visitors for centuries. Prominent historical figures such as Thomas Jefferson and Robert E. Lee have visited or written about the Peaks of Otter, signifying its importance as a natural landmark in Virginia's Blue Ridge.

The Johnson Farm provides opportunities for insight into community life in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with hands on living history demonstrations that convey a sense of visiting an occupied family home. The farmhouse is perhaps the Parkway's best example of a log cabin home that was enlarged over time, clap boarded and otherwise modified to reflect the evolution and development of Appalachian homes. The Johnson farm represents what may be thought of as "middle class" life in the mountains, providing a significant contrast to log homes selectively preserved by Parkway planners, and breaking down the stereotypes often associated with mountain residents.

Natural history also abounds at the Peaks of Otter, an area that is representative of the hardwood forests common along the mid range elevations of the Parkway. The area is also home to rare plants and animal species and an extensive trail system offers visitors access to these areas. A hike to the top of Sharp Top, one of the three "peaks", along with Flat Top and Harkening Hill, is a long standing tradition dating back over a century. Overnight lodging and food service makes the Peaks especially attractive.

What attracts visitors today, abundant wildlife, the high mountains, cool summer temperatures, and diversity of natural resources, have made the Peaks of Otter a hunting destination for humans for 10,000 years and a destination for travelers for centuries. Newly developed exhibits in the visitor center convey this in more detail.

DID YOU KNOW?

When construction began in 1935 the Parkway was the longest single-unit road ever designed.

76.5 **High Point on the Parkway in Virginia**. Apple Orchard Mountain. (El. 4,229.) Alt. 3,950.

83.4 **Fallingwater Cascades National Scenic Trail**. Divided into two sections or may be hiked as one continuous loop. Fallingwater Cascades section is a 1.5 mile loop of moderate hiking. Flat Top section is more strenuous, 2.5 miles to summit and 4.4 mi. to Peaks Picnic Area on VA 43.

84-87 **Peaks of Otter Area**, 5,000 acres. Three Peaks-Sharp Top [El 3,875], Flat Top [El. 4,004], and Harkening Hill [El. 3,364]. Visitor Center, self-guided trail, historic farm interpretive programs. Picnic area, campground, restrooms.

● APPOMATTOX, VA

"Where our Nation Reunited" ... featuring civil war sites, beautiful architecture, antiquing, outdoor recreation, and so much more. www.townofappomattox.com (877) BLU-GREY.

Museum of the Confederacy-Appomattox - See Robert E. Lee's coat & sword along with interactive exhibits that tell the stories of the Civil War. Just down Rt 24 from the historic surrender grounds. Open daily. 159 Horseshoe Rd. www.acwm.org or call (434) 352-5791.



Kids can participate in the Junior Ranger program. Pick up a packet at any Parkway visitor center.

BEDFORD, VA

Exit via VA 43 at the Peaks of Otter and take a peek at Bedford's orchards, potteries, country inns, arts, & shops. The Welcome Center is located at 816 Burks Hill Rd. (Hwy 460 & 122 - near the D-Day Memorial), Bedford, VA 24523. www.visitbedford.com (877) 447-3257 or (540) 587-5681.

ATTRACTIONS

Bedford Welcome Center - 816 Burks Hill Road (Hwy 460 & 122 - near the D-Day Memorial), Bedford, VA 24523. Toll free (877) 447-3257, (540) 587-5681.

National D-Day Memorial - 9 acre complex with English garden, landing scene, Victory Arch. Guided tours/school programs with reservation. Admission fee. www.dday.org (540) 586-DDAY.

Peaks of Otter Winery & Orchards - Seasonal or by appt. Free tours, tastings & animal visits. Farm vacation rental house. Website: www.JohnsonsOrchards.com (540) 586-3707.

Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest - Experience Thomas Jefferson. Discover his personal retreat. Step into his private world. Through guided house tours visitors will be welcomed March 15 - December 30, 7 days a week from 10 - 4 to rediscover Thomas Jefferson. Located near Lynchburg, VA. www.poplarforest.org. Call (434) 534-8120.



More than 250 bird species have been observed along the Parkway

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cedar Post Inn B&B - 1346 Reed Creek Rd. 8 mi. from Pkwy. 2 suites w/ priv. bath, full breakfast, fish, hike, relax. www.cedarpostinn.com (434) 299-6327.

Days Inn of Bedford - 921 Blue Ridge Ave. Beautiful views of the Peaks of Otter Mountains. 10 mi. from Parkway. Free WiFi & breakfast buffet. Renovated rooms available. (540) 586-8286.

Dovetail on Suck Mountain - minutes from MP 86, stunning views of Peaks, 4-BR log home on 20 acres, wrap-around porch, WiFi. www.dovetailonsuckmtn.com.

Bedford, VA



The majestic Peaks of Otter are best seen from the mountain's base in Bedford

Just minutes away from the legendary Peaks of Otter, Bedford offers delightful diversions from your travels along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Six wineries scattered throughout Bedford from the slopes of the Peaks of Otter to the shores of Smith Mountain Lake comprise the Bedford Wine Trail.

Thomas Jefferson's amazing retreat which he designed and built, Poplar Forest, provides an intriguing glimpse into his personal life. Other American heroes are remembered at The National D-Day Memorial, an extraordinary-moving tribute in the community which suffered the largest casualties per-capita on D-Day. The Bedford City/County Museum, housed in the historic Masonic Temple offers exhibits including what the Washington Post hailed as one of the best displays in the state dealing with the heritage of Virginia's Indians. Historic Centertown offers shops, restaurants, Art Galleries and cafes in a delightful historic old fashioned downtown. Smith Mountain Lake offers boat cruises aboard the Virginia Dare and many other recreational offerings. Begin your stay at the Bedford Welcome Center, open daily. To reach Bedford from the Parkway exit at MP 121.4 (Rt. 460 East), MP 63.8 (Hwy 501) or Milepost 86 (Route 43 East) at the Peaks of Otter. Follow signs to the Visitor's Center.

Contact INFO

Bedford Area Welcome Center - adjoining the entrance to the National D-Day memorial at the junction of Routes 460 & Hwy 122.

1-877-447-3257

www.visitbedford.com

DID YOU KNOW?

There are 176 bridges on the Parkway, which makes up 10% of all National Park Service bridges.

Olde Liberty Station Restaurant - Your ticket for casual dining. 12 mi. from MP 86; Open 11-10 M-Th, 11-11 Fri, Noon-11 Sat., 1st Class Dining in beautifully restored train station. Great prices. (540) 587-9377.

Vanquility Acres Inn - Rt 43S 8 mi. to Rt 838. 10 acre farm, beautiful views of Blue Ridge Mountains, fishing, lake, AC, fireplaces, cable TV, WI, suites w/priv. baths, full breakfast. www.vanquilityacresinn.com (540) 587-9113.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Gross' Orchard & Apple Valley Homeplace - Vacation home rental. Open year-round. $75 per couple per night. Mountain grown fruit & produce. Bedford, VA. Rt. 43 in Apple Valley. U-pick or U-select. Apple Festival 3rd Sat. in Oct. (540) 586-2436.

86 **VA 43 East to Bedford** 10 miles and Smith Mountain Lake via VA 43 and VA 122.

Peaks of Otter Lodge - MP 86 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily from late March through November. Weekends December through late March. Restaurant, lounge. Shuttle to Sharp Top Mountain. www.peaksofotter.com (888) 454-7711.

90.9 **Bearwallow Gap**. VA 43, 4 miles to Buchanan. Alt. 2,258.

AMERICA'S BYWAYS™

Roads designated by the U.S. Department of Transportation are considered part of the America's Byways collection.

To receive an All-American Road designation, as the Blue Ridge Parkway, a road must possess multiple intrinsic qualities that are nationally significant, and contain one-of-a-kind features that do not exist elsewhere.

The road must also be considered a "destination unto itself." That is, the road must provide an exceptional traveling experience so recognized by travelers that the primary reason for their trip would be to drive along the Byway.

Please visit www.byways.org for more information.

● BUCHANAN, VA IN BOTETOURT COUNTY

At MP 90.9, travel just 4 miles north on Rt. 43 to historic downtown Buchanan. With over 200 structures dating back to the early 1800s, observe the town's four Civil War Trail Sites. Stroll through shops filled with antiques, art, furniture & collectibles. Enjoy a show at the Buchanan Theatre, then delight in an old-fashioned root beer float and lodge within view of the spectacular James River. Steady yourself on our Swinging Bridge or paddle & fish along The Upper James River Water Trail & view remnants of the James River and Kanawha Canal. Savor fine wines along The Wine Trail of Botetourt County & visit the charming towns of Troutville & Fincastle. www.townofbuchanan.com (540) 254-1212 x 4. Civil War History Weekend 4/24-4/26. Mountain Magic in Fall – 10/3. Visit websites for more events. www.visitbotetourt.com (540) 473-1167.

Middle Creek Campground - Exit VA 43N, R on Rt 11, R on Arcadia Rd, 6.3 mi. Pool, swim pond, hiking, fishing, RV, tent cabins, LP, Laundry Apr 1- Nov 30. (540) 254-2550. www.middlecreekcampground.com

Twin River Outfitters - Offering canoe, kayak, & tubing trips on upper James River. Open daily Apr-Oct. www.canoevirginia.net Call for details (540) 261-7334.

Wattstull Inn & Restaurant - AAA. Hilltop location with scenic views. 8 mi S of Natural Bridge. From Parkway exit via Rt. 43. Phones, TV, AC, pool. www.wattstullinn.net (540) 254-1551.

● VINTON, VA

The Parkway - A Part of The Community. Convenient full service shopping, restaurants, festivals and events, farmers' market, history museum. www.vintonva.gov or (540) 983-0613.



From May - October a variety of ranger talks and programs are offered for visitors.

Blue Ridge Parkway Plateau Region:

Milepost 106, Roanoke, VA to Milepost 217, Virginia/North Carolina Border



MAP KEY: Refer to page 23 for explanation of symbols

106 **Junction Parkway and US 460.** 9 mi. southwest to Roanoke, VA. 21 mi. northeast to Bedford, Lynchburg and Appomattox, VA.

112.2 **Junction Parkway and VA 24.** 5 miles south to Roanoke. Nearest access to Smith Mountain Lake via VA. 24 & 122.

● SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE, VA

500 miles of glistening shoreline. Year-round appeal, history & wine anytime, fish, boat, golf, dine, shop. FREE Visitor's Guide: www.visitsmithmountainlake.com (540) 721-1203.

114.9 ***Roanoke River Overlook Trail.***

115 ***Visitor Center,*** gift shop, public restrooms, and a media center with videos on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Exhibit area with historic information and features of the Roanoke Valley. The center piece of the exhibit area is a large scale topographical map of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Picnic areas are available along with a short walking trail and mountain biking trails.

120 ***Mill Mountain Discovery Center.*** Located on top of Mill Mountain, exit Milepost 120. An environmental education and regional information center providing nature programs, hands-on exhibits, and visitor information. Open year-round: April - October, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday; Noon - 4 p.m., Sundays. November - March Tuesday - Sunday, Noon - 4 p.m.

120.3 ***Roanoke Mountain Loop Rd.*** 4 mi. one way road, around Mountain. Steep grades. Impressive views from summit. No trailers.

120.4 ***Roanoke Mountain.*** Day-use area, trails.

PAINT BANK, VA

35 miles west of Roanoke via Rt 311.

Depot Lodge B&B - Swinging Bridge Restaurant, retail, Hwy 311, Paint Bank, VA. Restored depot, cabin on the creek, & caboose. www.thedepotlodge.com (800) 970-3376.

ROANOKE, VA

The Roanoke Valley and the neighboring scenic towns and counties — together known as Virginia's Blue Ridge — is the quintessential mountain destination. As the largest metropolitan region along the Blue Ridge Parkway, Virginia's Blue Ridge has so much to offer visitors. Endless choices for creative cuisine and more shopping than you can squeeze into a weekend are just the beginning. The vibrant arts and culture scene includes one-of-a-kind opportunities like the Taubman Museum of Art, the newly-renovated Center in the Square, the O. Winston Link Museum and more. It's all surrounded by the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains, which means outdoor fun on the rivers, streams, lakes, trails and back roads. Get a bird's eye view of Virginia's Blue Ridge from the Roanoke Star and Overlook, featured on the cover, just off of Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 120. Then head to the Visitor Information Center, open daily 9am to 5pm, to plan a perfect Blue Ridge Day. Contact: Roanoke Valley Convention & Visitors Bureau, 101 Shenandoah Ave, Roanoke, VA 24016. www.visitvablueridge.com or 800-635-5532 or 540-342-6025.

ATTRACTIONS

Virginia Museum of Transportation - Downtown Roanoke. Trains, antique vehicles, cars, model train layout, museum store. Mon-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5. www.vmt.org (540) 342-5670.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Apple Valley Motel - US 220S. Exit Milepost 121. Cable TV, A/C, phones, spacious, clean rooms. Major credit cards accepted. 5063 Franklin Road, Roanoke, VA 24014. (540) 989-0675.

Bent Mountain Lodge B & B - MP 136. 10 suites all with priv. baths, 20 min. to Floyd, VA, 20 min. to Roanoke, VA. Non-smoking rooms, cont. breakfast. 15K sq. ft. lodge. Weddings. www.bentmountainlodgebedandbreakfast.com (540) 651-2500.

Cambria Suites Roanoke - 301 Reserve Avenue. 5.8 miles from Parkway MP 122. Oversized suites with superior amenities and free covered parking. (540) 400-6226.

Colony House Motor Lodge - 3560 Franklin Rd. Roanoke. 2 mi off Parkway on US 220. Suites available. HBO, ESPN, pool, Free Continental breakfast. Meeting Room available. Shopping and good restaurants nearby. (540) 345-0411 or (866) 203-5850.

The Historic Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center - Milepost 120.4 in downtown Roanoke Virginia. www.hotelroanoke.com (540) 985-5900.

Franklin County, VA



Home grown music, outdoor adventure and cultural exploration are just a sampling of what Franklin County is all about!

Experience a jam session along the Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail or discover the arts in Historic Rocky Mount, the charming county seat that embodies traditional small-town America. Venture outdoors for a hike along rugged trails, kayak more than 70 miles of blueways or reel in trophy bass along Philpott Lake and Smith Mountain Lake.

Explore Blue Ridge Mountain heritage and culture amid Franklin County's rich, scenic landscape.

No journey to Franklin County is complete without a visit to the Booker T. Washington National Monument – the birthplace of famed orator Booker T. Washington, and to the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum at Ferrum College – where you will learn about life and culture in the Blue Ridge Mountains. Explore the many scenic corners of our community, where every side road opens up new vistas.

Contact INFO

Franklin County Office of Economic Development
1255 Franklin Street, Suite 112
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

(540) 483-3040
www.visitfranklincountyva.org

Holiday Inn Tanglewood - Roanoke, 4468 Starkey Rd., 2 M from MP 121. Best Views in the Valley. Renovated 2009. Micro, fridges, Restaurant, Lounge. (540) 774-4400.

Holiday Inn Valley View - 3315 Ordway Dr. 6 miles from BRP MP 121. 154 rooms, restaurant, meeting rooms. Rt. 220N/581 to exit 3W. (540) 362-4500 or (888) 465-4329.

The Inn on Cambpell - 118 Campbell Ave. SW, 4 mi from Pkwy. Upscale downtown B & B, 2 blocks from Historic Marketplace. *www.theinnoncampbell.com* (540) 400-0183.

King George Inn B&B - MP 120, 4 miles off Pkwy. L Franklin Rd, R King George Ave. Restored mansion in historic district. Walk to restaurants. *www.KingGeorgeInnBandB.com* (757) 675-4034.

Roanoker Restaurant - Est.1941. Homestyle breakfast - lunch - dinner. Fresh veg, breads, salad, sandwiches, seafood. Daily specials. Reasonable prices. To-go shop. Child menu.Open Tues-Sunday. Exit Milepost 121 onto 220N to I-581, exit Wonju St., left on Colonial Ave. 7 miles from Parkway. (540) 344-7746.

Sleep Inn - Tanglewood Mall - Easy access from Parkway @ MP 121; 1.5 miles take US 220 north to Route 419 west; on left. Suites available. Ample shopping & rest. nearby. (540) 772-1500.

121.4 **Junction Parkway and US 220**, 5 mi. north to Roanoke. 5 mi. south to Boones Mill. 21 mi. to Rocky Mount, 45 mi. to Martinsville. Smith Mountain Lake by way of US 220 to Rocky Mount and Va. Rte. 40.



Rhododendron, mountain laurel, and a variety of azaleas put on their big show from May through late June. See the bloom guide on Page 11.



Pine Spur Overlook, Virginia. Photo by Jeff Greenberg

● FRANKLIN COUNTY, VA

Nestled amid Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Franklin County boasts communities that continue to value their farms, forests, waterways and cultural heritage. Discover the area's musical heritage, artisan treasures, outdoor adventures and cultural/historic attractions. Franklin County Tourism www.visitfranklincountyva.org (540) 483-3040.

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. Alt. 2,703.

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

● MONTGOMERY COUNTY, VA

Enter Montgomery County, VA 21 miles from MP 165.2 via Rt 8 North. www.visit.yesmontgomeryva.org (540) 394-2120 ext. 4225.

Beliveau Estate Winery - MP 120, 581, I-81 S., Ex 141. Award-winning wines, on-site B&B, wedding venue. *www.BeliveauEstate.com* (540) 961-0505.

The Oaks Victorian Inn - 311 East Main St. in Christiansburg, VA. Award winning Four Diamond Select Registry B&B. *www.theoaksvictorianinn.com* (540) 381-1500.

Quality Inn - Exit 118C of I-81, 20 miles from Parkway. Next to Cracker Barrel. Free breakfast & internet. Seasonal pool. (540) 382-2055 or (800) 4CHOICE.

RADFORD, VA

Located 20 miles north of Parkway via Rt. 8, exit at Milepost 165.2. 25 miles south of Roanoke via I-81, exits 105 & 109.

Nesselrod Bed and Breakfast - Overlooks the historic New River at 7535 Lee Hwy in Radford, VA. Our venue hosts weddings, concerts and social events. www.nesselrod.com (540) 731-4970.

Radford Visitor's Center - ***Rt. 8 to I-81 Exit 109. "Find it in Radford" - biking, birding, kayaking, tubing, and living history at Ingles Farm and Glencoe Museum - all in & along the New River! Also home to unique shops, restaurants, the Civil War Trail, Radford University and the Highlanders.*** **www.visitradford.com** ***(540) 267-3153.***

FERRUM, VA

East of Parkway via Rts. 640 & 602, exit Milepost 152 or via Rts 860 & 40, exit Milepost 159.

Blue Ridge Farm Museum - Route 40. 1800 VA-GR farm complex w/ livestock & interpreters of farm life. Mid-May - Mid-August Sat. 10 - 5 Sun. 1 - 5. www.blueridgeinstitute.org (540) 365-4416.

Blue Ridge Institute and Museum - Route 40. State Center for Blue Ridge Folklore. Changing exhibits on folk life and folk art. Mon-Sat 10-4 www.blueridgeinstitute.org (540) 365-4416.

165.2 **Tuggle Gap.** VA. Rt. 8 Crossover. East 6 mi. to Woolwine, VA; 16 mi. to Fairy Stone State Park. Swimming, boating, picnicking. North 6 mi. to Floyd, 20 mi. to Christiansburg.

FLOYD, VA & FLOYD COUNTY

At MP 165, take Route 8 six miles to vibrant downtown Floyd. Enjoy a unique blend of new and heritage music, arts, shops, restaurants and spirits, with hiking & biking along 40 miles of the Parkway (MP 137-175); historic rock churches and heritage sites. ***www.VisitFloydVa.com (540) 239-8509.***

ATTRACTIONS

Chateau Morrisette - Milepost 171.5. West on Black Ridge Rd, left on Winery Rd. Timber-frame winery with spectacular view. Year-round tours, tasting, sales, gift shop Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch & dinner. Check website for hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com (540) 593-2865.

The Jacksonville Center for the Arts - 220 Parkway Ln (Rt. 8). From MP 165, go N on Rt. 8 for 5.5 miles. Galleries, studios, gift shop, classes and more. www.jacksonvillecenter.org (866) 787-8806.

Download our free *Blue Ridge Parkway - Travel Planner* **mobile app directly to your smartphone.**

Floyd County, VA



Running on Floyd Time… Floyd is as much a state of mind as it is a destination.

Floyd County is a haven of natural beauty renowned for our hospitality and for a vibrant culture of music, arts, local foods, wines and spirits, and outdoor adventure.

Along our 40 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, explore the historic Mabry Mill, Rocky Knob, Smartview, and Rock Castle Gorge National Recreation Area.

At Milepost 165, head to the Town of Floyd, a key stop on The Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail – with our celebrated Friday Night Jamboree when streets overflow with musicians. Also enjoy live music from Thursday to Sunday.

Shop, dine, wine, explore at venues throughout the county. Hike to the panoramic view atop Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve or kayak along the Little River. Let our history take you back to a simpler time of old mills and stone churches. *You just may need to stay awhile* – and a variety of unique lodging awaits you.

The colorful Town of Floyd is 6 miles east of the Parkway. Take VA 8 at Milepost 165.

Contact INFO

Floyd County Visitor Center
109 East Main St.
Floyd, VA 24091

540-745-4407

www.VisitFloydVA.com

Virginia is for Lovers

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway Road Closure Map at **www.nps.gov/maps/blri/road-closures** *provides real time road closure and condition information. This feature may be particularly helpful when winter weather conditions force temporary and fast-changing closures. In other seasons of the year, storms can sometimes cause temporary closures due to downed trees or debris.*

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Ambrosia Farm B&B and Pottery - 5 mi West of MP 171.5. Historic log-built inn, fireplaces, lovely views, porches, wineries nearby, pottery studio. *www.ambrosiafarm.net* (540) 745-6363.

Bella La Vita Inn B&B - 1.7 mi west of BRP between MP 161-162, Extraordinary affordable accommodations. *www.bellalavitainn.com* (540) 745-2541.

Blue Ridge Restaurant - Across from the courthouse in Floyd, VA. 6 miles from Parkway Milepost 164. Open 7 days a week. Good homestyle cooking, delis, breakfast every morning, daily specials, real mashed potatoes, and desserts prepared daily. Come by and enjoy the small town atmosphere and good food at the Blue Ridge Restaurant. (540) 745-2147.

The Floyd Country Store - Downtown Floyd, VA. Traditional music & dancing, country food & shopping. (540) 745-4563. *www.FloydCountryStore.com*

Hotel Floyd - 120 Wilson St. Downtown Floyd, 6 mi. off MP 165.2. Green hotel, 40 unique rooms themed after Floyd's character. Pet friendly rooms available! *www.hotelfloyd.com* (540) 745-6080.

Little River B&B - 3 miles from downtown Floyd, VA. Scenic views, delectable breakfast. MP 164, Rt. 8. *www.little-river-bedandbreakfast.com* (540) 745-4598.

Oak Haven Lodge - Comfortable, affordable, overnight accommodations. 7 mi. from MP 164 on Route 8. Lovely 12-room lodge. *www.oakhavenlodge.com* (540) 745-5716.

Pine Tavern Lodge - Est. 1927. 1 1/2 mi. from stoplight on US 221 N. Nicely furnished rooms & 1 cottage. All major credit cards, WiFi, cable. (540) 745-4428. *www.thepinetavernlodge.com*

RV & Tent Camping at Chantilly - Full hookups, water, sewer and electric or tent camp. 2697 Franklin Pike, Floyd VA 24091. *www.chantillyfarm.com* (540) 808-4984.

Stonewall Bed & Breakfast - Spacious three-level log home set in a native mountain forest. We specialize in country hospitality and provide a country experience in the down home B&B style. *www.stonewallbed.com* (540) 745-2861.

Stoney Meadow Inn B&B - 0.6 mi. from MP 152. Spacious rms, WiFi, excellent food. 25 acre farm w/ animals. M/C, Visa, Discover. *www.stoneymeadowinn.com* (877) 344-1088.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

Green Label Organic Outlet Store - 210 W. Oxford St. Fun organic clothing with a point of view. USA made. Locally made gift items. Behind Food Lion to the right. *www.greenlabelorganic.com*

Harvest Moon Food Store - Offering a unique array of gourmet and health foods, supplements, gifts, toiletries, wine and beer. Supporting over 30 local producers with selections of local and organic produce, meats, wine, cheese, eggs and fresh bread. Floyd, VA. *www.harvestmoonfoods.com* (540) 745-4366.

On The Water in Floyd - The Little River outfitter to take care of your river needs. Visit *www.onthewaterinfloyd.com* for information. (540) 838-1877.

167 **Rocky Knob**, 4,800 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, campground, visitor center (Milepost 169). 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

Pickett's Thickett - Milepost 170.4. 2 houses on 95 acres. 3 BR & 4 BR, AC, pond, fully equipped, very private. Near winery & Mabry Mill. Call (336) 292-0999.



Beavers

When European explorers first traveled through the Southern Appalachians, beavers inhabited virtually every stream and river. Their engineering efforts provided food, shelter and safe habitat for other species. When fur traders trapped the last beaver in the late 1800s, a vital component of the mountains' natural ecosystem was eliminated. Beavers were reintroduced during the 1930s-1950s and have increased the biological diversity in many Parkway areas. Management efforts by park staff are aimed at protecting the role of the beaver and maintaining the recreational opportunities for visitors.

● WOOLWINE, VA

Located 6 miles east of Parkway, via Rt. 8.

Mountain Rose Inn - Rt 8 MP 165/ 6 mi. South to Rt 40. Left 2 mi. Award-winning Victorian B&B circa 1901. 5 large rooms w/baths, A/C, antiques, fireplaces, porches. Pool, trout stream, private 100 acres with hiking. Gourmet 4-course breakfast. www.mountainrose-inn.com (888) 930-1057.

● WILLIS, VA

9 miles west of Parkway on Rt. 799, exit at MP 174.

Daddy Rabbit's Campground - Milepost 174, 4 miles west on 799 to 727. Camping cabins, tents, full hookups, metered LP gas, hot showers, laundry. Open April 15-Nov. 1. (540) 789-4150.

Mountain Song Inn - Beautiful rural retreat just 15 miles from MP 174. Fantastic view and 4 course breakfast, must see! www.mountainsonginn.com (540) 789-3000.

Ocotilla's Mountainside Alpacas - 3.7 miles from MP 174. Specializing in the selective breeding of Quality Alpacas and their exquisite products. www.ocotillasmtnalpacas.net (540) 593-2143.

176.1 **Mabry Mill**. Self-guiding, features restored mill and exhibits on rural life in Appalachia.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway uses short side roads to connect to other highways, and there are no direct interchanges with interstate highways, making it possible to enjoy wildlife and other scenery without stopping for cross-traffic.

● MEADOWS OF DAN, VA

Just off Parkway on US 58, exit at Milepost 177.7.

Blue Ridge Visitor Center - At Parkway exit Meadows of Dan MP 177.7. Maps, brochures, travel guides, lodging. www.patrickchamber.com (276) 694-6012.

ATTRACTIONS

Chateau Morrisette - Milepost 171.5. West on Black Ridge Rd, left on Winery Rd. Timber-frame winery with spectacular view. Year-round tours, tasting, sales, gift shop Mon-Thurs 10-5, Fri-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5. Restaurant open for lunch & dinner. Check website for hours. A must see destination! www.thedogs.com (540) 593-2865.

Martinsville-Henry County, VA

You'll love the pace!



Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Martinsville-Henry County, Virginia boasts the ultimate outdoor playground. Enjoy kayaking or trout fishing on the Smith River, take a hike on more than 16 miles of trails or borrow a free bicycle to ride. Take in a game at our state-of-the-art Smith River Sports Complex, walk a lap around Martinsville Speedway or enjoy a leisurely day of swimming and boating on Philpott Lake, the possibilities are endless!

There's just something about Martinsville-Henry County, where a visit is a vacation. This area is deeply rooted in a rich foundation of incredible history. Explore the Virginia Museum of Natural History or find the roots of your family tree at the Bassett Historical Center.

Take in an evening of live music, comedy or drama at the Historic Spencer Penn Centre, Rives Theatre and TheatreWorks. Observe local artists at work or sign up for a class to craft your own creation at the Southern Virginia Artisan Center and Studio 107. Treat yourself to an afternoon of shopping, dining and pampering in Uptown Martinsville. You'll love the pace here!

Contact INFO

Martinsvill-Henry County, VA
191 Fayette Street
Martinsville, VA 24112

1-888-PACE-4-YU
VisitMartinsville.com



Keep your eyes open for wildlife.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

A Blue Ridge Haven Log Cabin - 1.5 miles from Parkway on the Dan River. Appalachian-style log cabin with A/C, loft, cable, Wi-Fi, fireplace, pets ok. www.ablueridgehaven.com (703) 554-4420.

Blue Ridge Motel - Adjct. Parkway. 75 yds west on US 58 Milepost 177.7. Color TV, elect. heat, AC, carpet, tubs & showers. Lovely lg. rooms, low rates. Clean and quiet. VISA-MC. Open all year. (276) 952-2244.

Blue Ridge Treasure Log Cabin Rental - 1.5 mi. from Pkwy MP 177 on Dan River. Log cabin, central AC/heat, cable/Wi-Fi, gas grill. See VRBO #488575 for more info. (704) 202-0752.

Mabry Mill Restaurant & Gift Shop - Country fare menu. Renowned buckwheat pancakes and homemade cobbler. Breakfast all day. Arts & edibles. 8-6 daily May-Oct. www.mabrymill.com (276) 952-2947.

DID YOU KNOW?

Watching for Bears!

The Black bears are the largest mammals in the Appalachians, and like all wild animals, they tend to keep their distance from humans. This is, of course, best for the bears and for the visitors! The population of bears in both Virginia and North Carolina is on the rise. Especially when camping or picnicking, use the bear-proof garbage cans provided, or better still, take your trash back home with you. Keep your distance from these magnificent creatures.



MABRY MILL & ROCKY KNOB

Milepost 176

The cultural sites, facilities, and adjacent farms throughout the Rocky Knob area speak of a settled and ancient landscape. Farming has been a way of life in this part of Virginia for generations, and continues here where a drive off the Parkway into crossroads communities will demonstrate. You will also be rewarded with great views as well!

Travelers see the daily patterns of life on the high plateau at Puckett's Cabin, and, of course, at Mabry Mill. The Parkway has played a significant role in influencing change in the area. Seeing how people have interacted with the landscape over time is fascinating for those who slow down and experience the pace of life on or off the Parkway. The rural countryside experience is a delight, whether during the rosebay rhododendron bloom in late June, or during the fall harvest and foliage display along the plateau around mid-October.

Ed and Lizzy Mabry's gristmill is over a century old and graces the pages of countless calendars and postcards. It is arguably the most picturesque spot on the entire Blue Ridge Parkway. Ed built this mill and the Mabrys ground corn for their neighbors for three decades, creating a community gathering place for the folks who called Meadows of Dan home. Although the mill itself is the focal point of the area, visitors are reminded that Ed Mabry was talented in many other areas as well, adding a wheelwright shop, sawmill and blacksmith shop to his enterprise in addition to a two-story frame house. Parkway designers of the 1930s preferred the look of rustic cabins and dismantled the Mabry's home in favor of bringing in the Matthews' log cabin from nearby.

Cultural history demonstrations are offered in summer and fall. The sights and sounds of rural life in Appalachia, community, mountain industry, and the change from an agricultural to an industrial society resonate from this place on a regular basis during the summer season.

Rangers and volunteers staff Matthew's Cabin daily in the visitor season, often carding, spinning and making baskets while orienting visitors to the area. Blacksmith demonstrations are presented several days weekly in the blacksmith shop. On weekends in October, visitors delight at the sight and smells of apple butter made over an open fire. This is one of the most popular gathering places anywhere on the Parkway. Old time music has filled the air here for decades on Sunday afternoons. Flat-footing is encouraged!

A network of trails through the 3,500 acre Rock Castle Gorge, just a few miles north, offers access to some of the most botanically diverse areas of the Parkway. Trails into the Gorge are accessible from several points, including the Rocky Knob campground, located at Milepost 167.

Meadows of Dan Campground - US Bus. 58W & BR Pkwy. MP 177.7. Clean-Quiet-Peaceful. At 3,000 ft. Full hookups, bathhouse, dump stat. Separate wooded tent area. Pets on leash-CG only. Furnished cozy or luxury log cabin rentals, some w/ whirlpools & gas log fireplaces. No pets in cabins. Open year round. www.meadowsofdancampground.com (866) 952-2292.

Poor Farmers Secluded Cabin Rentals & Country Store - Best place to stay. Farmers market, Marathon gas, deli, unique gifts, open all year. MP 177, jct Hwy 58. Poor Farmers Market on Facebook. E-mail fshelor@swva.net (276) 952-5697.

Primland Resort - Meadows of Dan, VA. 4 miles from Parkway MP 177. Luxury lodge, cottages, spa, golf, wing shooting, fly fishing, sporting clays, horseback riding. Casual and fine dining. One of a kind observatory. www.primland.com (866) 960-7746.

Woodberry Inn - MP 174.1 - 16 lovely rooms, full service restaurant and bar. Clean and peaceful. Open all year. www.woodberryinn.com (540) 593-2567.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway was the most visited unit of the National Park Service every year from 1946-2012.



Puckett Cabin | Milepost 189.9

SHOPPING

Poor Farmers Farm - An old fashioned Country Store. 5 miles E. on US 58 (not business 58) from Parkway MP 177.7. www.poorfarmersfarm.net (276) 952-2560.

177.7 **US 58 Crossover**. 22 mi. west to Hillsville. East to Stuart, Martinsville, and Danville.

Carroll County, VA



Step back in time…… Do you enjoy pick your own farms, clean crisp mountain breezes, the echo of a banjo rolling through the hills? If so you will find everything you are looking for and more in Carroll County, VA. The States leading pumpkin producing county and also known for a variety of other crops. Whether it's a visit to the Southwest Virginia Farmers Market, a unique winery or maybe a tour to the alpaca farms our variety is diverse there is something for everyone. Our Agricultural events are something you will not want to miss beginning in late August with the Agricultural Fair, followed by a unique event that highlights heritage farming "Shockley Old Timey Days" always the last week-end in September and our Annual Fall Foliage and Pumpkin Festival the 3rd week-end in October. Don't forget the pick-your-own farms are wide in variety and are open nearly year round, the bluegrass music is always on and the outdoor recreation and splendor never take a day off so plan your vacation anytime we welcome you to come SEE OUR STYLE. www.visittheblueridge.com VIRGINIA IS FOR Farm LOVERS!

Exit Parkway at MP 199.4 Fancy Gap Carroll County's Gateway

Exit off of the parkway at MP 199.4 Fancy Gap and head toward the Town of Hillsville to experience many more of Carroll County's Treasures: Southwest Virginia Regional Farmers Market, Historic Downtown Hillsville, The New River Trail State Park, Crooked Creek Fee Fishing and Wildlife area, The Devil's Den Nature Preserve and many more treasures await you in beautiful Carroll County Virginia where many say "Visit for a day. Stay for a lifetime."

Contact INFO

Carroll County Office of Tourism
Blue Ridge Plateau
Regional Visitor Center
231 Farmers Market Dr. Hillsville, VA 24343

Virginia is for Lovers

888-785-2781

visittheblueridge.com

PATRICK COUNTY, VA

Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains where natural beauty, outdoor recreation and history blend. For more information on accommodations and events: Patrick County Tourism Division, PO Box 466, Stuart, VA 24171 or econdev@co.patrick.va.us or visit us at: www.visitpatrickcounty.com (276) 694-8367.

MARTINSVILLE, VA

30 miles east of Parkway MP 177.7 on US 58. Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center, 54 W. Church St. History, art, recreation, & more. You'll Love the Pace! www.VisitMartinsville.com (888) PACE-4-YU.

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, Comfort station. Alt. 3,030.

189.9 **Puckett Cabin** home of Orleana Hawks Puckett, storied local midwife. Alt. 2,850.

DID YOU KNOW?



The Parkway will be depicted on North Carolina's version of the "America the Beautiful" quarter in 2015.

ARARAT, VA

5 miles south of Parkway, exit at Milepost 192.

Wolf Creek Farm - Exit MP 192, VA 771 Willis Gap Rd. Lt. at The Hollow, Rt. at Rabbit Ridge to Gid Collins Rd. Children welcome! Fishing lake, pool, play area. Campfire, hayride, privacy! www.wolfcreekfarmva.net (800) 416-9653.

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 plus mountain views and streams. Hiking, fishing, golfing, canoeing, bird-watching, flea markets, gun shows, mountain music and annual festivals are just a few of our many attractions. Our Visitor Center is located at Exit 14 off I-77 only 10 miles from the BRP at Fancy Gap. Contact: Carroll County Tourism, 605-1 Pine Street, Hillsville, VA 24343, www.VisitTheBlueRidge.com (276) 730-3100 or Toll Free: (888) 785-2781.

Blue Cat on the New - Offering tipi & primitive camping, canoe, kayak, bike & tube rental. Guided fishing & wildlife trips. Bike & boat shuttle service. www.bluecatsnewriveroutfitters.com Two locations. (276) 766-3729 - Draper, (276) 744-2027 - Fries.

Lake Ridge RV Resort - 8736 Double Cabin Rd. Hillsville. Best kept secret in VA! We offer cabin rentals, RV & tent camping. Enjoy our new waterslides, pools, mini golf, paddle boats, catch & release fishing and much more! www.LakeRidgeRV.com (276) 766-3703.

Mount Airy, NC



Mount Airy is part of the Yadkin Valley Wine Region, home to over 35 wineries!

Mount Airy captures the spirit of small town Mayberry with friendly people, great food, and a peaceful, scenic setting. We have Mayberry attractions, as well as great music and entertainment, shopping, dining, wineries, and accommodations - hotels, cabins, b&bs, and campgrounds. Mayberry attractions include the Andy Griffith Museum, a statue of Andy and Opie, Squad Car Tours, Wally's Service Station, and Floyd's Barbershop.

Mount Airy, NC: Mountains, Music, Mayberry, Merlot

Visit Andy Griffith's hometown, the inspiration for Mayberry on "The Andy Griffith Show"

Shop and dine in Downtown Mount Airy and enjoy wine tastings at Old North State Winery. Visit the Mount Airy Museum of Regional History. Enjoy weekly bluegrass and old-time music & jam sessions at the Earle Theatre, as well as a new Blue Ridge & Beyond music series & a Summer Concert Series at the Blackmon Amphitheatre.

Only 15-minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway - take the parkway exit at Milepost 199.5, and travel on Highway 52 S, 12 miles south of Fancy Gap, VA.

Contact INFO

Mount Airy Visitors Center &
Chamber of Commerce
200 N. Main Street • Mount Airy NC 27030
Open 7 Days a Week

visitmayberry.com

The Blue Ridge Parkway is literally the "Backbone" of a great scenic mountain region embracing the Southern (and highest) portion of the Appalachian mountain range, an area of approximately 20,000 square miles.

Opening up vast mountain areas for the benefit and enjoyment of all, the Parkway forms a broad avenue of approach, and at the same time a high balcony from which to view the natural wonders and cultural significance of this mountain region.

the Blue Ridge Parkway

This great 469-mile scenic Parkway follows closely the highest ridges between the Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, attaining altitudes of more than 6,000 feet and averaging between 3,000 and 4,000 feet. It is designed especially for leisurely enjoyment of the scenic wonders along the way—a high road of adventure intended for leisure travel on the ride-awhile, stop-awhile basis. The numerous overlooks provide parking areas from which to enjoy some of America's finest scenic views.

You may enter or leave the 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 on either side, where accommodations, meals and service stations are available. The ★ symbol on the 6 sectional maps will help you easily identify these Parkway entrances/exits.





This directory is designed to help you select accommodations and to enjoy to the fullest the scenic attractions along the Parkway. There is a numbered Milepost each mile along the Parkway. You will note in this directory in bold type, the mileage which will correspond with the Mileposts. We have also shown on the six detailed section maps, the approximate location of every tenth Milepost.

The wondrous profusion of mountain flowers in spring and early summer, the high altitude coolness of the forest-clad mountains in summer, and the glorious coloring of these mountains in autumn provide an everchanging appeal.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is open 365 days a year, weather permitting. Sometimes road repair is undertaken in the winter months and detours are posted. The Parkway is not plowed or salted in the winter so, after snow or ice events, portions may be closed until the weather warms and makes the roadway safe for travel again.

You can visit www.nps.gov/blri/road-closures or call the Parkway's recorded information line at 828-298-0398 to access road condition information.

DID YOU KNOW?

The first contract for work on the Blue Ridge Parkway, awarded to Nello Teer Construction Company of Durham, NC at the height of the Great Depression, was for over $316,000. Teer purchased a new steam shovel for the project!

199.5 **Fancy Gap**, US 52 Crossover, 8 mi. north to Hillsville, VA, 1.5 miles to I-77, 20 mi. to Wytheville, VA, 33 mi. to Pulaski, VA, 14 mi. south to Mt. Airy, NC. Alt 2,920.

● HILLSVILLE, VA

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

The distinctive stone masonry portals on most Parkway tunnels were generally not part of the original construction, but were added later, mostly in the 1950s and 1960s.

● FANCY GAP, VA

Exit Parkway at MP 199.5. Hwy 52. I-77 Exit #8.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Fancy Gap Cabins and Campground - Parkway MP 202.5. Motel, RV sites. Motorcycles welcome. www.fancygapcabinsandcampground.com (484) 560-9119.

The Gap Deli at the Parkway - US 52 & MP 199.5. Homemade soup, sandwiches, salads & desserts. Open daily with seasonal hours. (276) 728-3881.

Grassy Creek Cabooses - Refurbished RR cabooses w/2 person Jacuzzi's, satellite TV, decks, great views. Just 1.5 mi. off BRP at MP 193.5. Open year round. Call (276) 398-1100.

Lonesome Pine Cabins - These authentic log cabins of yesteryear, with views for miles, with in-room Jacuzzi & fireplace, are ideal for your relaxation. Located between Milepost 193 & 194 Blue Ridge Parkway. Open year round. www.lonesomepinecabins.net Call (276) 398-3332.

Mountain Top Motel - MP 200 at Rt 52 jcn at Parkway ramp, with restaurant, gas across the street, clean rooms, wireless internet, DIRECTV with 200 ch. (276) 728-9414.

Surry County, NC / Yadkin Valley Wine Country

Parkways, Greenways, Blueways and Chardonnays.... Very Surry has it all!!



Elkin – Mount Airy – Dobson – Pilot Mountain

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

Visit one of over 30 Yadkin Valley wineries and savor the rich history of our region.

Contact INFO

Milepost 229 Hwy 21 to Elkin and Mile Post 199.5 Hwy 52 South

800-948-0949

www.verysurry.com

Rap's Bar & Grill and Travel Center - Great food, gas, gifts, 100 ft off Blue Ridge Parkway @ Milepost 193.5 next to Lonesome Pine Cabins. www.rapsva.com (276) 398-2204.

Snow Mountain Properties - Cabins along the Parkway, sleep 2-13 ppl, some w/ amazing views, others w/total privacy, some units pet friendly. www.snowmp.com (276) 398-3535.

RECREATION

Skyland Lakes Golf Club - Milepost 202.2 at Rt. 608, bordering Parkway. Public 18-hole golf course around mountains and lakes. Accommodations available. (276) 728-4923.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Fancy Gap Dress Shop & Family Clothing - Name brands, discount prices for whole family: dresses, sportswear, golf apparel, nurses' uniforms, jewelry, accessories. Open Monday-Saturday 9-5. (276) 728-7130.

Peaceful Heart Alpacas & Farm Store - On Pkwy, MP 204. Meet our alpacas. Luxurious alpaca clothes, fiber, yarn & handcrafts. Fiber art classes: felt, weave & more. www.peacefulheartalpacas.com (276) 728-4950.

Treasure Potts Antique and Garden Shoppes - Int. of Hwy. 52 and BRP at MP 199.5. Period furniture, pottery, clocks, lamps, china. Plants and garden accessories. www.treasurepotts.com (276) 728-3880.

PARKWAY BOUNDARIES

The Parkway touches boundaries with state parks, four national forests, and five federally designated wilderness areas which expand visitors' opportunities for recreational activities including hiking, bicycling, boating, horseback riding, fishing, swimming and more.







To learn more, please visit:

NC State Parks
www.ncparks.gov

VA State Parks
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks

Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests (NC)
www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc

Jefferson and George Washington National Forests (VA)
www.fs.usda.gov/main/gwj/about-forest

Welcome to Dobson

Birthplace of the Yadkin Valley AVA



Founded in 1850, Dobson is the county seat of Surry County North Carolina and is nestled right in the heart of North Carolina Wine Country. Small and inviting, Dobson offers lots of nice area attractions for visitors looking for a laid back and relaxing getaway.

While in Dobson visitors will want to visit the historic downtown, centered on the courthouse square, and explore the various dining options in the area ranging from fine dining to family owned restaurants. Dobson is also home to some of NC's premier wineries with each of those wineries offering their own unique wines and experiences to all customers; a day in itself can be used to leisurely travel to all of these wineries. There are also two hotels, camping areas and cabin rentals offering a variety of unique accommodations to travelers.

Dobson also has many offerings for those wanting to be outdoors. With beautiful views and mountain vistas visitors are encouraged to enjoy hiking, canoeing, fishing & numerous other outdoor activities while in the Dobson area.

Dobson is also home to some of NC's premier wineries with each of those wineries offering their own unique wines and experiences to all customers;

Contact INFO

Dobson can be reached off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 199.7 to I-77S exit 93.

336-356-8962

www.dobson-nc.com



Milepost 213

BLUE RIDGE MUSIC CENTER

The sounds of the fiddle, banjo, and guitar are likely to welcome you when you visit the Blue Ridge Music Center that straddles the North Carolina/ Virginia border. As part of Virginia's Heritage Music Trail:The Crooked Road and the Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina, some of the region's finest traditional music can be heard on weekends at the outdoor amphitheater late May through October. Weekdays, visitors are welcome to a front porch experience with local musicians on the breezeway.

The Blue Ridge Music Center is managed cooperatively by the Blue Ridge Parkway and the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation with a mission to share traditional music and the bounty of our mountains with visitors. Established by the U.S. Congress in 1985, the site includes an outdoor amphitheater, indoor theater, and interpretive center, and gift shop. The Roots of American Music exhibit gives insight to the history and culture of regional music traditions. Trails are accessible from the parking lot including a Kids in Parks TRACK Trail which offers a special hiking experience to children of all ages.

Music seems to be a natural part of these mountains – practically inseparable from those who call this special place home. Nowhere is that heritage felt more strongly than here on the banks of Chestnut Creek and in the shadow of Fisher Peak. The people of these mountains have created and kept alive some of the richest traditions of folk music and dance in our nation, much of it being commercially recorded in the 1920s and 1930s. The region is nationally recognized as a center of traditional Blue Ridge Music. Music here arises from diverse ethnic groups, European and African, and has evolved over generations into distinct styles with distinct identities. It reflects community, personal values, and cultural connections to the wider world.

Admission is free, so relax, enjoy the music, the concerts, and the experience at the Blue Ridge Music Center, a place near to heart of America and its music. ***www.blueridgemusiccenter.org***

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway is one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the world with about 100 varieties of trees, 1,600 plant species, 54 mammals, and 159 species of birds.

● MT. AIRY, NC

Exit Parkway at Milepost 199.5, Hwy 52 South. 12 miles south of Fancy Gap, VA. Visit Andy Griffith's hometown and inspiration for the fictional town of "Mayberry." Visit the Andy Griffith Collection, squad car tours, regional museum, Floyd's Barbershop, Wally Service Station, historic downtown, Andy Griffith Playhouse and homeplace, Pilot Mountain State Park, historic homes & the world's largest open-face granite quarry. Bluegrass shows/jams weekly. (800) 948-0949 or check out www.visitmayberry.com for visitor information.

ATTRACTIONS

Main · Oak Emporium - Fashion, footwear, outdoor, gifts. Restaurant, historic renovation. Corner of Main, Oak & City Hall Streets. Open 7 days. www.mainoakemporium.com (336) 789-2404.

Mt. Airy Museum of Regional History - Over 30,000 sf. of exhibit space including Andy Griffith, Siamese twins, & Donna Fargo. Tues-Sat., admission. www.northcarolinamuseum.org (336) 786-4478.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

The Cabins at White Sulphur Springs - 133 White Sulphur Springs Rd. 1 bedroom, king bed, queen sofa bed. 3.5 mi. from Mt Airy. 8 mi. to Pkwy at Willis Gap. www.wsscabins.com

Hampton Inn - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74 exit 11 to US 601 North. Left at stoplight 1 1/2 mile on right. Award winning hotel! www.mountairy.hamptoninn.com Call (336) 789-5999 or (800) 565-5249.

When you hear the phrase "More Than a Road" it refers to the cultural and historic resources that the Parkway contains, including nearly 30 counties that cross Parkway boundaries in VA and NC. Part of the Parkway experience is exploring these gateway communities and learning about the people and places that have shaped the mountain experience in our region.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74, exit 11 to US 601 North. 1 1/4 miles on left. Newest hotel in Mount Airy. Call (336) 719-1731.

Sobotta Manor Bed & Breakfast - National Award Winning Inn, 10 min. to Pkwy right in the heart of downtown Mt. Airy & wineries, open year round. www.sobottamanor.com (336) 786-2777.

● SURRY COUNTY, NC

Surry NC, S of the Parkway on Hwys. 21, 18, 89 and 52. Lodging, restaurants, shopping, wineries, outdoor recreation, and more! www.verysurry.com (877) 999-8390.

● DOBSON, NC

A small community is in the heart of North Carolina Wine Country and home to some of NC's premier wineries. Exit Parkway at MP 199.7 to I-77S exit 93. For more information visit: www.dobson-nc.com or call (336) 356-8962.

Hampton Inn & Suites - MP 119.5 US 52 to I-77 S exit 93. Wine bar, indoor pool, exercise room, hot breakfast, meeting rooms. www.hamptoninn.com (336) 353-9400.

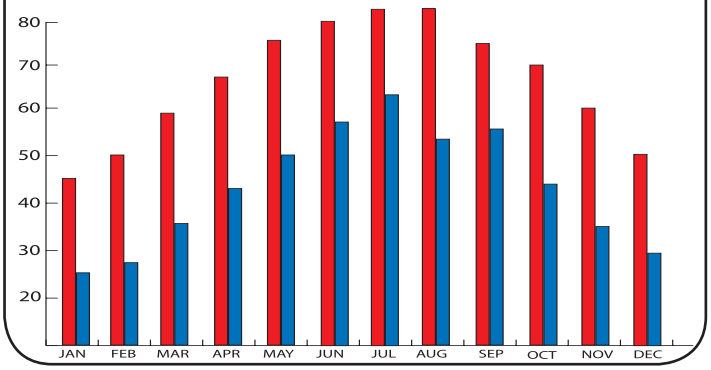
Shelton Vineyards and Harvest Grill - 199.5 US 52 to I-77S to NC exit 93 and follow the signs. Estate winery, offering tours and tastings daily. Restaurant serving lunch and dinner Mon-Sat, lunch on Sun. www.sheltonvineyards.com (336) 366-4724.

Normal Daily Maximum & Minimum Temperatures

Average Elevation of 2100'

For weather info call (828) 298-0398.

Parts of the Parkway may close to vehicles due to weather. For updated information, call (828) 298-0398 for list of closings. Always be prepared for rapidly changing weather and the difference that elevation change can make in temperature



● PILOT MOUNTAIN, NC

10 miles south of Mt. Airy, via US 52.

Pilot Knob Inn - Tobacco barn cabins & Honeymoon suites, whirlpools, fireplaces on 100+ acres, lake with boating & fishing, Pilot Mtn 1 mile off Hwy 52. Full breakfast & sauna. www.pilotknobinn.com (336) 325-2502.

Galax, VA



Dubbed one of the 10 Best Driving Vacations by USA Today.

Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and just 7 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway, via Rt. 89 exit at MP 215, Galax is close enough for a leisurely drive from several metropolitan areas, but far enough to escape the toil and turmoil of urban living.

Once a furniture and textile town, Galax has evolved into an eclectic blend of small businesses offering unique shopping, enticing dining, and a musical heritage unlike any other. This hamlet is a preeminent destination on the Crooked Road, Virginia's Heritage Music Trail, dubbed one of the 10 Best Driving Vacations by USA Today. Be it Bluegrass and Old Time music in the Spring, BBQ and Beach Music in July, or the World's Oldest and Largest Old Fiddler's Convention in August, you'll have a toe tappin' knee slappin' good time during our special events. Whether a day trip for a fun adventure or a weekend stay to explore all that Galax has to offer, visitors find themselves enchanted with the area and wanting to return again and again, and we welcome it.

Contact INFO

Galax Visitor's Center
110 East Grayson St.
Galax, VA 24333

www.visitgalax.com

888-217-8823 • 276-238-8130

DID YOU KNOW?

Bicycling

There are great bicycling opportunities here on the Parkway itself and on all paved roads in campgrounds and picnic areas. Bicyclists and motorized vehicle operators each play an important role in watching out for each other and negotiating the roadway safely. Bikes must travel single file. Biking is not allowed on Parkway hiking trails which tend to be winding, steep, and narrow. Dirt roads and trails designed specifically for off-road bicycles are numerous in the four national forests that the Parkway travels through.



For more information about bicycling on the Parkway please visit: www.nps.gov/blri/planyourvisit/bicyclinginformation.htm

● PINNACLE, NC

Exit at MP 199, via US 52 S, 5 miles SSE of the town of Pilot Mountain, near Pilot Mountain State Park.

Jomeokee Park - 30 mi. off Parkway on US 52. Quiet & peaceful. Tent camping & 20/30 amp sites. Gorgeous view of Pilot Mtn. Apr.-Nov. www.jomeokee.net (336) 325-2296.

213 **Blue Ridge Music Center** - Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled seasonal performances (June-September) of old-time and bluegrass music. (276) 236-5309. Visitor Center open daily Summer-October. Visit **www.blueridgemusiccenter.org** for concert schedule.

215 **VA 89 Crossover**. 7 mi. North to Galax.

● GALAX, VA

Exit 215 - 7 miles N on Rt 89. Live radio show each Friday night from the Rex Theater. Downtown shops, area museum, New River Trail. www.visitgalax.com (276) 238-8130.

Cool Breeze Campground - MP 215 3/4 mile N on Rt. 89. Left on Edmonds Rd #613, 2.5 miles on Right. Full hook-ups, Big Rig Friendly, bathhouse, laundry, Rally Center. Clubs Welcome. Free Wi-fi & cable TV. Open Year Round. www.coolbreezecampground.com Toll Free (866) 342-0300.

Wytheville, VA



When you discover all that Wytheville has to enjoy, you'll see why it's called a "Small Town with a Big Experience." Located at the crossroads of Interstates 77 & 81 in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Wytheville offers a variety of interesting attractions for all ages surrounded by the beauty of a wealth of outdoor recreation. From wineries and gardens to a dinner theatre featuring all musicals, from historic museums and an Indian village to a 45-acre animal park, whether it's a scenic drive, a round of golf or shopping, there's something for the entire family. Accommodations range from all-suite hotels to budget motels, luxurious bed & breakfasts and cabins as well as numerous campgrounds. Over 60 restaurants offer a variety to dining choices with local flavor and national chains.

Wytheville is located at the crossroads of Interstates 77 & 81, just 30 minutes from the Fancy Gap entrance to the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Come and experience the beauty, history and variety that make this small town unique.

Contact INFO

Wytheville Convention & Visitors Bureau
975 Tazewell Street
Wytheville, VA 24382

877-347-8307

www.VisitWytheville.com



Blue Ridge Music Center. Photo courtesy of NPS

Blue Ridge Travel Association - ***Free travel guide of the attractions, accommodations and events for locations along I-77 and I-81, and scenic byways of the mountains of Virginia.*** **www.virginiablueridge.org** ***(800) 446-9670.***

● WYTHEVILLE, VA

Something for everyone including an animal park, dinner theatre, wineries, interesting trails, Indian village, outdoor recreation, shopping, motels, cabins, B&Bs, over 60 restaurants & more! ***www.VisitWytheville.com 1-877-347-8307.***

Big Walker Lookout - Observation tower, scenic views, hiking trails, cafe & craft/novelty shop. Exit Fancy Gap, US 52 N. past Wytheville. Open all year. *www.scenicbeauty-va.com* (276) 663-4016.

● ABINGDON, VA

Off Interstate 81, Exits 14, 17, 19.

Barter Theatre - Professional live theatre - 18 productions, two historic stages, one great experience. 127 W. Main St., Abingdon, VA. I-81 exit 17. For tickets call (276) 628-3991 or visit *www.bartertheatre.com*.

The Crooked Road - Virginia's Heritage Music Trail. Visit the place where America's Music was born...and lives on. *www.thecrookedroad.org* (276) 492-2409.

Heartwood: Southwest Virginia's Artisan Gateway - ***Featuring the region's best arts & crafts, heritage music, and local food & wine. A great place to start your Southwest Virginia adventure. I-81 Exit 14.*** **www.heartwoodvirginia.org.**

● BRISTOL, VA /TN

Located on I-81 at the Tennessee/Virginia state line.

Bristol Caverns - 5 miles southeast of Bristol on US 421. Only 8 miles from I-81 Exit 3. A journey through the caverns will take you through millions of years of timeless beauty. Largest and most beautiful in Smoky Mountain region. Open daily. (423) 878-2011.

● PENNINGTON GAP, VA

40 miles west of Kingsport, TN via Rts. 23 & 58.

Old VA Hand Hewn Log Homes - Mfg. authentic hand hewn log homes of 6″x12″ with dovetail corners; optional chink joint or on log. New 8″x8″ planed round or D log with dovetail corner. Hqts. & Sales Office US Hwy 58 near DOT, Pennington Gap, VA 24277. Company owned log guest cabin available for overnight lodging. Call for Reservations. (276) 546-5647.

Finding The Best Fall Color



Fall is the season when the Blue Ridge attracts the most attention. Travelers, nature writers, photographers, and artists come to enjoy the visual display created by hardwood leaves changing from summer green to autumn gold, red, and orange. Visiting here in the peak of the fall color season is a sight that few fail to appreciate.

Finding the right "window" of time and the perfect spot can perhaps be nothing more than good fortune, but keeping a few things in mind and exercising some patience can increase anyone's chances of seeing the Blue Ridge in its autumn glory.

Typically, the Parkway experiences the much anticipated change in fall foliage around the middle of October. Some years the color comes a bit early and other years it may be delayed a week or so. Many factors contribute to variations in when and where colors will peak, with moisture throughout the year and the colder temperatures being key factors.

The Parkway is 469 miles north to south and varies over 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. As is always the case with outdoor viewing, early morning or late afternoon light tends to bring contrasts of shadows that will brighten colors.

Whether you come to the Blue Ridge with camera, palette and brush, or simply to take in the richness from an overlook, a little planning and patience in mid to late October will yield some of the pretty color that we're famous for.

Blue Ridge Parkway Highlands Region:

Milepost 217, VA/NC Border to Milepost 340, Crabtree Falls



MAP KEY: Refer to page 23 for explanation of symbols

216.9 **NC - VA State Line**. Alt. 2,547.

217.5 **Cumberland Knob**. 1,000 acres, picnic area, comfort stations, drinking water. 15-minute loop trail to Cumberland Knob. (Elev. 2,855). Loop trail into Gully Creek Gorge. 2 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. Alt. 2,805.

229 **US 21 Crossover**. West 7 mi. to Sparta, NC., 17 mi to Independence, VA. East 4 Mi. to Roaring Gap, NC.

● ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC

Alleghany County Visitor Center is just a few miles off the BRP in downtown Sparta. Slow down. Breathe easy. Stay as busy or un-busy as you want to be. Conquer a mountain or play checkers on the front porch. Find out where to stay, dine, hike, explore, canoe, fish, shop and play. www.coolsparta.com (800) 372-5473.

John Harmon Gallery - 10100 US Hwy 21 S Roaring Gap. MP 229, south on 21, four miles. Fine art & pottery, gas, food, motel & camping available in area. www.JohnHarmonGallery.com (336) 363-9138.

● GLADE VALLEY, NC

North of the Parkway via US 21, exit at MP 229.

Blue Ridge Vacation Rental Home & Retreat - 5905 Mountain View Road, Glade Valley. Large 6 bed/4 bath historic home between MP 225/226. www.blueridgebandb.net (336) 657-3000.

Glade Valley B&B - Located near the middle of the BRP at MP 229. Visit our beautiful log home with mountain views. Six rooms, all with private baths. Start your morning with a homemade country breakfast. Exit at Rt. 21, south towards Roaring Gap, ¼ mi. turn left on Shawtown Rd. 1¼ mile, right on Shaw Lane. 330 Shaw Lane, Glade Valley, NC. www.gladevalley.com (800) 538-3508.

ROARING GAP, NC

5 miles south of Parkway on US 21, exit at MP 229.

Nikola's Restaurant & High Meadows Inn - US 21 South. Spacious rooms, cable/TV, AC suites, great rates, steaks, seafood, pastas & more. Eat & stay. Rest. (336) 363-6060, Inn (336) 363-2221.

SPARTA, NC

North of Parkway on US 21. Exit at MP 229 or 248.

Alleghany Inn - 341 N Main St, Sparta, NC 28675. 64 Rooms - Free Wireless Internet - Cable TV 60+ chan, guest laundry. Restaurant on site. Reserve online: *www.AlleghanyInn.com* or (888) 372-2501.

Blue Ridge Gallery of Fine Art & Joe Edwards Christmas Tree Farm - Mahogany Rock Rd. L on Pine Swamp, L on Gallery Lane. Wine tasting, wire-wrapped jewelry, paintings, pottery, ornaments, photography and trees. *www.blueridgefineart.com* (336) 372-1711.

Harmony Hill B&B - 1740 Halsey Knob Rd. Exit at MP 217, 229, or 248. 360 degree views, 6 guest rooms with private baths. Wine and cheese at 5:00. Full breakfast. Sit on the porch, sip a glass of wine, and enjoy! *www.harmonyhillbnb.com* (336) 209-0475.

ELKIN, NC

Exit at Milepost 229 - travel south on Hwy 21. Visit more than 6 wineries of the Yadkin Valley on your way to Elkin. Lodging, restaurants and more! Download our free App: Elkin NC. www.elkinnc.org (336) 794-6464.

GoYadkinValley.com - ***It starts with a river. M.P 276.4 through 199.5 to discovery wineries, outdoor adventure and small town charms. www.GoYadkinValley.com***

238.5 **Doughton Park**, 7,000 acres - Picnic area (Milepost 241), campground (Milepost 239), trailer sites, comfort stations, drinking water, 30 miles of trail. At Milepost 238.5 is the picturesque Brinegar Cabin. Be sure to visit Wildcat Rocks (Milepost 241.1), to view the Caudill House, a survivor from a community largely destroyed by an early 20th century flood.

248.1 **NC 18 Crossover** 2 mi. west of Laurel Springs. 24 mi. east to North Wilkesboro, NC.

PINEY CREEK, NC

US 21 to Rt 93. Exit Parkway at MP 229.

RiverCamp USA - 2221 Kings Creek Rd. Piney Creek, NC. MP 248, 18N to 113N, follow signs. Located on the New River, FHU, 30/50 amps, river and pull-thru sites, group area, canoe, kayak, and tube rentals, store. *www.rivercampusa.com* (336) 359-CAMP (2267).

Alleghany County & Sparta, NC



Do you have the latest electronic organizer but your life still runs in circles? Do you wakeup each morning with new worries to add to yesterday's unfinished business?

Discover an unhurried day with time to feel nature's pace, the slow rising of the sun, the warmth it brings to the day and the waning light that heralds nightfall. Discover the Blue Ridge Mountains of Alleghany County and Sparta, North Carolina. Ride winding two-lane roads and be awed by the same scenic splendor that attracts Parkway visitors. See art take shape at an artisan's studio. Float down the New River and let its waters soothe you. Experience mountain music at an informal jam, barn dance or live music venue.

Be challenged by our mountain links and enjoy a cool summer's day of golf. At day's end, snuggle under covers and the stars of a cool mountain night and sleep your cares away.

NC 18 offers Parkway travelers a back-roads alternative route through the Alleghany County countryside and the small town of Sparta. Exit and return to the Parkway at Mile Posts 217.3 and 248. Sparta is also accessible via US 21 at Mile Post 229.6.

Contact INFO

Alleghany County Chamber of Commerce and Visitors' Center
58 South Main Street
Sparta NC 28675

1-800-372-5473
www.CoolSparta.com



Milepost 238

DOUGHTON PARK & BRINEGAR CABIN

Rolling ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides characterize the Doughton Park area. Remote mountain places like this were settled in the mid-to-late 1800s by growing families seeking more land by moving farther up the mountain creeks and valleys, while remaining in proximity to parents, grandparents, and other relatives. While people in many other parts of the country were rushing into the modern ways of the 20th century, these close-knit families–like the Brinegars, Caudills, Joines, Crouses and Pruitts–still raised most of their own food, built their own homes, and lived well into the 1900s without modern conveniences.

Martin Brinegar and Caroline Joines were married in 1878 and built a log cabin near Caroline's parents' home. It still stands here on the ridge along with their springhouse and granary. Here they raised and provided for their three children. Below the Brinegar cabin is Basin Cove. Settled in the 1880s by Harrison Caudill, Basin Cove grew into a community of 20 families with a store, church, and school. In 1916, torrential flooding throughout the mountains caused mud slides and destruction to cascade down the valley, destroying all but one home and killing several people.

Today, Parkway visitors can experience the ruggedness andbeauty of life here. Glimpse Basin Cove and the remaining cabin from Wildcat Rocks near Bluffs lodge. Or hike some of the more than 30 miles of trails that meander through the meadows and climb the steep hillsides. The Brinegar cabin is open several days a week during the summer and fall. Visitors can tour a demonstration garden and the cabin, and see exhibits, learning how Caroline made her family's clothes from the flax she grew and sheep she raised herself.

LAUREL SPRINGS, NC

Just north of Parkway on NC 18, exit at MP 248.

Cabins on Laurel Creek - 2900 S Laurel Fork Rd. MP 250. 3 pet-friendly cabins in peaceful location overlooking pond & pastures. www.cabinsonlaurelcreek.com (336) 207-7677.

Freeborne's Eatery & Lodge - Hwy 18 S Laurel Springs, MP 248. 18 rooms with full service restaurant, bar, store, MC & Visa. www.freebornes.com Reservations call (336) 359-8008.

Miller's Camping - 1 mile N of Hwy 18 on Parkway Milepost 247. Full hook-ups, store, mountain-made crafts, hot showers, & laundry. www.millerscamping.com (336) 359-2828.

Thistle Meadow Winery - MP 246, follow Elk Knob Rd (paved) 3 mi. Observe winemaking, tastings, gift shop. Call for hours, wine choices. www.thistlemeadowwinery.com (800) 233-1505.

Wild Woody's Campground & Antique Stores - Just off Parkway Hwy 18. Campground on trout stream, showers, beer, snacks. Ice cream, antiques, rare records, candles. Must see to believe. Buy, sell, trade, and rent Campers. Open May-Dec. 12-8 Thurs-Sun or call for appt. (336) 984-8088 (c), (336) 359-8432 (h).

ASHE COUNTY, NC

www.thecoolestcorner.com. Enjoy scenic views, hiking, biking, canoeing, golf, 3 historic towns, arts district, crafts, festivals. Ashe Chamber, PO Box 31, West Jefferson, NC 28694. www.ashechamber.com (888) 343-2743.

Zydeco Moon Cabins - 2220 Big Helton Rd. 28631. MP 260, log cabins on Helton Creek, organic farm, great views. www.zydecomoon.com (336) 384-2546.

259 **Northwest Trading Post** offers crafts and packaged food gifts from North Carolina's northwestern counties. (336) 982-2543

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Mountains, the mountains the Parkway runs through, are made up of granite, metamorphosed volcanic formations and sedimentary limestone. These mountains were formed over 400 million years ago!

GLENDALE SPRINGS, NC

100 yards west of Northwest Trading Post, MP 259.

Greenhouse Crafts Shop - 1/4 mile west of Trading Post. Beautiful gifts, crafts, books, CDs, instruments, garden. Open 7 days. (336) 982-2618.

Mountain View Lodge - MP 256, Eight new cabins & one beautiful lodge, perfect for both small and large groups. Cabin amenities include kitchens, bedroom with king and queen size bed, large loft, cable TV, VCR/DVD, Jacuzzi tubs, fireplace, and decks with rockers and swings. www.mtnviewlodge.com (336) 207-7677.

Northwest Trading Post - at MP 259 is now "Sally Mae's on the Parkway" featuring Hand Made In The USA products with food and drinks in a magical historic venue. (336) 982-2543.

Raccoon Holler Camping Area - Between Mileposts 257 & 258 just off NC 16. Beautifully shaded, full hookups, swimming, fishing. Open April 15 til Nov 1. www.raccoonholler.com (336) 982-2706.

Zaloo's Canoes - Cool off! The kids will love it. 5 minutes off Parkway. Safe - Scenic 1-5 hour tube and canoe trips on the New River. Best family adventure on the Parkway. Go west at the North West Trading Post MP 259 for one half mile then right on Hwy 16 for 3 miles. Glendale Springs. www.zaloos.com (800) 535-4027.



Regional lakes and rivers offer mild to wild adventures.

Wilkes County, NC



Pick a reason to Explore Wilkes! Located in the Yadkin Valley where outdoor beauty and recreation thrives. Mountain streams, rivers, and lakes are featured throughout the tall trees and lush green valleys as visitors enjoy fly fishing, boating, canoing and kayaking. Wilkes is a host to multiple trails for walking, hiking, biking, and bird watching. Visitors will relish the harvest of the local vineyards, wineries, orchards, and fresh vegetables and handmade crafts sold at the downtown farmers' markets.

MerleFest, Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame, Shine to Wine, Brushy Mountain Apple Festival, all featuring the best of Americana, Gospel, Bluegrass, Beach, and mountain heritage music.

Quiet, modern, and private accommodations hosting multiple hotel rooms, secluded cabins, and picturesque campsites are accessible and affordable. Visit www.ExploreWilkes.com – you'll like what you see.

Discover the wonderful recreational opportunities such as W. Kerr Scott Reservoir's camping, boating, bird watching, hiking and mountain biking the seven-mile Dark Mountain Trail.

(Funded by Wilkesboro Tourism Development Convention and Visitors Bureau)

Contact INFO

Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

336-838-8662

www.ExploreWilkes.com

261 **NC 16 Crossover**. West 12 mi. to Jefferson, 14 mi to West Jefferson, 26 mi to Grassy Creek. East 20 mi. to North Wilkesboro.

● JEFFERSON, NC

12 miles north of Parkway via NC 16, exit at MP 261.

Buffalo Tavern B&B - 958 W. Buffalo Road, W Jefferson, NC. MP 261, 4 rooms, full breakfast, mountain views, 1872 farm house. www.buffalotavern.com (877) 615-9678.

Best Western Eldreth Inn - Hwys. 221 & 88. AAA/3 Diamond. Comfortable country hospitality. Take NC 16 to US 221 south to Jefferson. Kings, queens, x-long double beds, & non-smoking rooms available. Cable TV/HBO. Rocking chairs on balconies. View of Mt. Jefferson; next to the shopping center; near New River canoeing, frescoes, cheese factory. Open all year. For reservations & information, call (800) 221-8802 or (336) 246-8845.

● WEST JEFFERSON, NC

Historic West Jefferson, located 14 mi. from MP 261. Art galleries, restaurants, unique shops. Find us online: www.visitwestjefferson.org (866) 607-0093.

Boondocks Brewing Tap Room & Restaurant - Committed to Excellence - Dedicated to Community. 108 S Jefferson Ave. www.boondocks-brewing.com (336) 246-5222.

Mountain Aire Golf Club - Beautiful 18 hole public golf course. Great condition, reasonable rates. Exit Parkway at Glendale Springs or Deep Gap. 1396 Fairway Ridge Dr., West Jefferson, NC 28694. www.mountainaire.com (336) 877-4716.

Nation's Inn of Ashe County - 9 miles from Parkway. MP 261. Continental breakfast, Ashe County hospitality. M/C, VS, DS, AX. www.nationsinn.com (336) 246-2080 or (800) 801-3441.

268 **Benge Gap**.

272 **E.B. Jeffress Park**. Picnic area, Comfort station, trail to Cascades.

● LANSING, NC

20 miles northwest of Parkway via Rt 163, then Rt 194.

On the Windfall Cottages - located in Ashe County. Secluded, upscale cottages on a private mtn top. www.onthewindfall.com (704) 975-3058.

● WILKESBORO, NC

20 miles southeast of Parkway via US 421 exit at Milepost 276.4.

Addison Inn - Hwy 421N. 20 miles SE of Parkway. Complimentary cont. breakfast, pool, free HSIA, pet friendly. 115 units. www.addisoninn.com (336) 838-1000 (800) 672-7218.

Elizabethton/Carter County, TN



Roan Mountain

Get lost in beautiful picturesque landscapes of Roan Mountain State Park and the Cherokee National Forest, or dare to explore the Watauga River with trophy trout fishing, flat water kayaking, or white water rafting. Challenge yourself to an easy-to moderate hike on the Appalachian Trail, or enjoy a family picnic on Watauga Lake with water activities in abundance. Discover your new favorite bed & breakfast, or share the stars with nature and take advantage of the many available RV Parks and campgrounds. Experience history as it comes to life in Liberty! Tennessee's Official Outdoor Drama. Find the hidden gems that are exclusive to historic Elizabethton/Carter County. Start your discovery today!

ANNUAL EVENTS

25th Annual Sycamore Shoals Native American Festival: May 30 - 31

Annual Rhododendron Festival... June 20 - 21

49th Annual Covered Bridge Celebration... June 10 -13

37th Annual Liberty! The Saga of Sycamore Shoals: July 9 - 11, July 16 - 18, July 23 - 25

Antiquing; Exclusive local dining and restaurants; Numerous cabins and hotels are available.

Contact INFO

P.O. Box 190
Elizabethton, TN 37644

1- 423-547-3850

www.tourcartercounty.com

DID YOU KNOW?

A Land of Creeks and Rivers

We may not think of a mountain Parkway being associated with creeks and rivers, but the Blue Ridge Parkway protects the headwaters of many local and regional watersheds. Driving the Parkway today, visitors will cross five major rivers – the James, Roanoke, Linville, French Broad, and Swannanoa – all of which help define our region.

Holiday Inn Express - Hwy 421, 20 miles from Parkway. Newly renovated hotel, hot breakfast, pool, HSIA. www.hiexpress.com/wilkesboronc (336) 838-1800.

Wilkes Heritage Museum - Includes Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame. 100 E. Main St. M-F 10-4, Sat. by appt. only. Guided & self-guided tours, special events and gift shop. Admission charged. www.wilkesheritagemuseum.com (336) 667-3171.

● 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. Web: www.wilkesnc.org Phone (336) 838-8662; FAX (336) 838-3728.

276.4 **Deep Gap**. US 421 Crossover. W. 11 mi. to Boone. E 26 miles to North Wilkesboro.

● FLEETWOOD, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via US 221, exit at MP 276.4.

Fleetwood Falls® - A quiet place nestled in the mountains, along the New River. Real estate for sale. Open all year. 9 1/2 miles NW of Parkway off Hwy. 221 on State Road 1106. 3108 Railroad Grade Road, PO Box 128, Fleetwood, NC 28626. www.fleetwoodfalls.com (336) 877-1110.

● WINSTON-SALEM, NC

South of Parkway via US 421, exit at Milepost 276.4 or Milepost 199.5, US 52 South.

Old Salem - Restored 18th-19th century town with 80 buildings on 100+ acres; decorative arts, award-winning heirloom gardens, shopping, dining, picnic tables. 1.5 hours from Parkway. 9:00-5:00 Tues-Sat; 1:00-5:00 Sunday. www.oldsalem.org (336) 721-7300.

● GREENSBORO, NC

Come explore the historic grounds of the Revolutionary War battlefields at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park. From one treasure to another, take a free tour of Replacements, Ltd. with over 13 million pieces of inventory. To pack in even more, spend time in our revitalized downtown - home to art galleries, theatres, restaurants, our minor league ballpark and exceptional historical museum. In the summer, be sure to cool off at Wet 'n Wild water park. www.visitgreensboronc.com or (800) 344-2282.

● CALDWELL COUNTY, NC

Home to 20 miles of furniture stores located along U.S. 321 - a required destination for any serious shopper looking for furniture bargains. Visit downtown Lenoir filled with sculpture, eateries and shops. Located thirty minutes south of Blowing Rock at Milepost 294. www.explorecaldwell.com (800) 737-0782.

● ELIZABETHTON, TN

"Birthplace of American Democracy," two state parks, largest rhododendron gardens in U.S., oldest frame house in TN, 134' covered bridge. Enjoy the outdoors, camping, water sports & hiking. www.tourcartercounty.com (423) 547-3850.

Appalachian Caverns - 420 Cave Hill Road, Blountville TN. Walking tours, climbing wall, campground, gem mine. Come Explore With Us! www.appacaverns.com (423) 323-2337.

● GREENEVILLE, TN

30 miles southwest of Johnson City, TN on US 321.

Andrew Johnson Golf Club - Courtesy is #1 with us! 18 holes, driving range, snack bar, Bermuda fairways & bent greens. Enjoyable for all skill levels. www.andrewjohnsongolf.com (423) 636-1476.

291.9 **US 221/321 Crossover.** 7 mi. north to Boone, 2 mi. south to Blowing Rock.



Moses H. Cone Memorial Park (MP 294) offers maps for 25 miles of carriage trails on its property.

● BOONE, NC

7 miles north of Parkway, via US 221/321, exit MP 291.9.

Watauga County Tourism Development Authority - ***Simple Pleasures & Mountain Values! Explore one of America's premier outdoor recreation and relaxation destinations. Visit www.exploreboonearea.com.***

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western - Hwy 421. 5 miles from the Parkway. Indoor pool, micro-fridge & coffeemaker, continental breakfast, suites w/ fireplace. (828) 266-1100.

Blue Heaven Resort & Spa - 911 Rock Cliff Rd., Boone. M.P. 285 Great Views, Relaxing Rooms, Spa Treatments, Dining, Daily Yoga and Meditation, Weekend Retreats. *www.thebluheavenspa.com* (800) 392-6870.

The Boone-Blowing Rock Area Lodging Association - ***For lodging choices and information about the High Country Area around Boone and Blowing Rock, please visit our website www.highcountrylodging.com.***

Comfort Suites - 1184 Hwy 105, 6 miles from Parkway. 96 suite hotel rooms, heat, indoor pool, exercise and game rooms. Hot breakfast. (888) 854-5959.

Country Inn & Suites - Hwy 421. 5 miles from the Parkway. Indoor pool, Jacuzzi, fitness center, continental breakfast. 2-room suites available. (828) 264-4234.

Courtyard by Marriott - 1050 Hwy 105 Boone, NC 28607. Brand new hotel in the High Country of NC. *www.courtyard.com/hkybn* Phone (828) 265-7676.

Crestwood Resort and Spa - MP 295. 5 min. down Shulls Mill Rd. Incredible views, restaurant, lodging, pool. *www.crestwoodnc.com* (828) 963-6646.

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 2060 Blowing Rock Rd. 5 miles from Parkway. Continental breakfast. Call (800) 228-2800.

Foscoe Rentals - Cabins, Condos and Vacation Homes centrally located to Boone, Banner Elk and Blowing Rock. *www.foscoerentals.com* (800) 723-7341.

Hidden Valley Motel - Hwy 105 in the Foscoe Valley between Boone and Banner Elk. Enjoy birds, blooms and butterflies in our country garden. *www.hiddenvalleymotel.com* or jim@hiddenvalleymotel.com. Call (828) 963-4372.

KOA Kampground - From Boone, 194N 3 mi. Left on Ray Brown Rd. 1 mi. Beautiful view. Rec room, mini-golf, laundry, pool. 123 Harmony Mtn. Lane, Boone, NC 28607. (828) 264-7250.

Boone, NC



The Boone stretch of the Blue Ridge Parkway offers a million ways to step away from your everyday routine and step outside yourself.

The promise of our cool springs, mild summers, and colorful autumns is the only coaxing you'll need to go biking, hiking, fishing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, or tubing.

Take a stroll through a street festival, listen to live music, or spend some time in our downtown shops, restaurants, galleries, and boutiques. There's even a 40-foot climbing wall in the middle of downtown. So when we say there's adventure waiting around every corner, we mean it.

From extreme mountain sports to relaxing evenings outdoors, from trips back in time to rides your kids will never forget, Boone has just the right amount of adventure for visitors of all ages and interests.

Boone has a vibrant art, history, and cultural scene as well as nationally known attractions and outdoor adventure.

Contact INFO

Boone, NC
Exit at Milepost 291
800-852-9506
ExploreBoone.com

800-852-9506
ExploreBoone.com

La Quinta Inn & Suites - 5 Miles from Pkwy, Indoor pool & hot tub. Continental breakfast. Microwaves & refrigerators. Suites w/ Jacuzzi tubs, fireplaces. Pet Friendly! (828) 262-1234.

Lovill House B & B - AAA 4 Diamond B&B in Boone on 421N. 6 Rooms/private baths/porch/11 acres. Full hot breakfast. www.lovillhouseinn.com (800) 849-9466.

Pepper's Restaurant - Famous sandwiches since 1975. Featuring steaks and seafood, soup & salad bar and homemade desserts. Open 7 days. Located at the Shops at Shadowline near Harris-Teeter. All ABC permits. www.peppers-restaurant.com (828) 262-1250.

Sleep Inn - Hwy 421. 5 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Free high-speed Internet & breakfast. Outdoor heated pool, Micro/fridge Jan. 2015. (828) 262-0020.

Super 8 - Largest indoor pool in Boone. Refrigerators & microwaves in all rooms. Free 8-item SuperStart breakfast bonanza. Pet Friendly! (828) 264-4133.

Willow Valley Resort - 3 miles off Hwy 105 from Boone. Eff. 1 br/2 br/3 br cabins & condos. Fully furn. Golf, tennis, pool, fireplaces. Excellent getaway. (828) 963-6551.

RECREATION

River and Earth Adventures - Whitewater rafting, caving, canoe and kayak rentals/shuttles, outdoor adventures and ecotours. www.raftcavehike.com (866) 411-RAFT (7238).

North Carolina High Country Host - ***A comprehensive source for vacation information on NC's Northwest Mountains. Contact for help in planning lodging, attractions, events, restaurants, and recreation in the High Country-Boone-Blowing Rock, Beech Mtn., Banner Elk, Linville, Sparta, West Jefferson, the Wilkesboros, and other communities. Visitor Center - NC High Country Host, 1700 Blowing Rock Rd., Boone, NC 28607. www.mountainsofnc.com, e-mail: info@highcountryhost.com, (800) 438-7500.***

● VALLE CRUCIS, NC

Via Rts US 421N or NC 194, 5 miles SW of Boone.

Mast General Store - Established 1883. Listed National Register of Historic Places. Authentic & nostalgic emporium located in pastoral setting 8 miles from Boone in the Valle Crucis community. Clothing, camping gear, shoes & boots, housewares & unique gifts. Hwy 194 (828) 963-6511. Also visit our downtown stores in Boone, Asheville, Hendersonville, Waynesville, Greenville, SC and Knoxville, TN. Visit online at www.mastgeneralstore.com.

Blowing Rock, NC



High in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina, Blowing Rock has been a destination for travelers seeking a place to rest and rejuvenate since the 1800s.

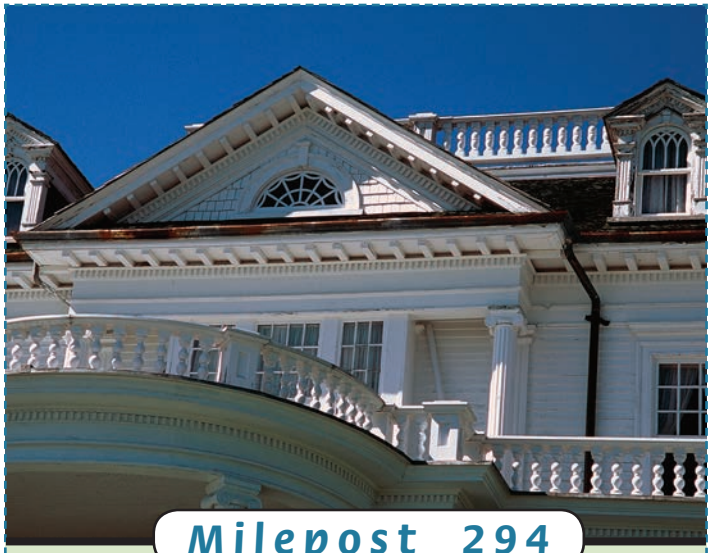
Known as the "Crown of the Blue Ridge," Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are cool and refreshing in the spring and summer, before blazing into a beautiful tapestry of changing leaves in autumn and frosting with snow in winter.

Just off the Blue Ridge Parkway, the village of Blowing Rock is a place where time-honored charm and tradition meet modern style and sophistication. With an excellent selection of shops and restaurants, the village offers something for all tastes and a wealth of hidden treasures along the way. Visitors enjoy year-round festivals and attractions including Tweetsie Railroad and The Blowing Rock, as well as a wide array of outdoor adventures from hiking, biking and horseback riding to skiing at Appalachian Ski Mountain.

Known as the "Crown of the Blue Ridge," Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are cool and refreshing in the spring and summer, before blazing into a beautiful tapestry of changing leaves in autumn and frosting with snow in winter.

Blowing Rock —
Crown of the Blue Ridge

877-750-INFO (4636)
www.BlowingRock.com



Milepost 294

MOSES H CONE MEMORIAL PARK

As unlikely as it sounds, blue jeans, farming and fine art largely define this country estate - turned Parkway recreation area. Moses Cone and his wife Bertha built what was then known as Flat Top Manor at the turn of the twentieth century. The son of a German Jewish immigrant who came to America as a peddler, Moses and his brother Caesar fashioned a textile empire, making them the leading producers of denim in the world. Visitors here will gain an understanding of the influence of this textile giant, and the role that the landscape architecture movement and country estate movement of the nineteenth century had on life in the Appalachian mountains.

In the 1890s and early 1900s, Cone fashioned this country place at Blowing Rock with its 23-room Colonial Revival mansion as a health retreat from the rigors of his business empire and as a way to showcase his new-found wealth. He built approximately twenty five miles of well-planned and exquisitely maintained carriage roads and two lakes. On Flat Top Mountain and Rich Mountain he and Bertha raised cattle and sheep and planted tens of thousands of apple trees. Soon after Bertha's death, the family offered the property to the Parkway with the understanding that it would be operated as a "public park and pleasuring ground."

Today the manor and the entire estate are one of the most heavily used areas along the Parkway and home to the Parkway Craft Center. Carriage roads are popular for hiking, horseback riding and cross-country skiing, especially by residents of the Boone/Blowing Rock area. While adjacent development has degraded some views from the estate, overall it retains most of the elements and the atmosphere of the premier county estate that it was. During the summer and fall, National Park Service staff provides frequent tours of the house. The manor house is both a good starting point and a highlight of any visit. Browse the bookstore and the craft center, with its assortment of contemporary and traditional crafts. Craft demonstrations are offered frequently in the summer.

● BLOWING ROCK, NC

Charming village on the Parkway. Exit Hwy 221 & 321. Lodging, dining and shops. Near attractions. Information: Blowing Rock Visitor Center, 159 Chestnut St. or PO Box 2445, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.BlowingRock.com (828) 295-4636.

ATTRACTIONS

The Blowing Rock - Breathtaking view 4090 feet above John's River Gorge. Prevailing winds return light objects thrown over the void. Hwy. 321 South, Blowing Rock, NC. www.theblowingrock.com.

Mystery Hill - Family fun center! Feel the strange pull. See water flow uphill. Hall of Mystery. 40 challenges. Heritage & Artifact Museums. Open all year. Hwy 221/321 North Blowing Rock. www.mysteryhill-nc.com info@mysteryhill-nc.com. (828) 263-0507.

Tweetsie Railroad - North Carolina's first theme park. Relive the Old West aboard the historic steam-powered locomotive known as Tweetsie. Bring your family and enjoy entertaining shows, rides, shopping, mountain clogging, panning for gold and a deer park. Open 9AM-6PM Friday-Sunday, Mid-April through May. June through Mid-August open seven days a week from 9AM-6PM. Mid-August through October open Friday-Sunday from 9AM-6PM. Located on Hwy 321 between Boone and Blowing Rock, NC. and from the Blue Ridge Parkway exit at Milepost 291, Boone exit. For more information call (800) 526-5740 or visit our Web site: www.tweetsie.com.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpen Acres Motel - 1/4 mi. N. of Blue Ridge Parkway on Hwy 321 - scenic hilltop. Heated pool, free wireless, light morning snacks. Chalet for 2. AAA. www.alpenacres.com (888) 297-7981.

Alpine Village Inn - 297 Sunset Dr. Cozy rooms & suites with AC, free Wi-Fi. Some fireplaces & Jacuzzi. Pet friendly rooms. www.alpine-village-inn.com (828) 295-7206.

Blue Ridge Mountain Rentals - Offers a selection of over 175 luxury vacation homes in the NC Mountains! Whether you are planning a family vacation or a romantic getaway for two, let us help! www.blueridgerentals.com or Call (800) 237-7975.

Chetola Resort - Magnificent views on 87 acres. Chetola Lodge, Bob Timberlake Inn and spacious condominiums. Spa at Chetola Resort, Timberlake's Restaurant, fitness center, Orvis Endorsed Fly Fishing Lodge, golf, fishing, wing shooting packages. 500 N. Main Street, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. (828) 295-5500 or (800) 243-8652. www.chetola.com.

Gideon Ridge Inn - 202 Gideon Ridge Rd. Beautiful stone Inn with great views & gardens. B&B 10 rooms & suites. $150-$360. www.gideonridge.com (828) 295-3644.

Green Park Inn - Full service National Historic Register hotel continuously operated since 1891. Complimentary full breakfast, restaurant, tavern, fitness room, and spacious public areas in original Victorian style. Straddling the Eastern Continental Divide 3 miles south on 321 Blowing Rock/Boone exit. www.GreenParkInn.com (828) 414-9230.

Hemlock Inn & Suites - "A Blowing Rock Tradition". Open all year. One of downtown's best locations. Located 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Hemlock Inn is one building off main street, within walking distance of shops, restaurants, and park. Kings with feather-bed, queens, doubles and two room-suites are available. Handicap accessible rooms also available. All rooms have color cable TV, A/C, telephones, microwaves, small refrigerators and coffee pots. Suites have fully equipped kitchens. Gazebo with sitting area and fountain. Free WiFi available. www.hemlockinn.net (828) 295-7987.

Holiday Inn Express Blowing Rock - 1 mile South on 321. Rooms with King or 2 Queen beds, microwave, refrig. Complimentary hot breakfast, internet, indoor pool. www.holidayinnexpressblowingrocknc.com (828) 295-4422.

Homestead Inn - 153 Morris St. in the heart of town. Open year round. Sun.-Thurs. discount. Quaint, cozy, immaculate rooms. A/C, flat screen TV, phones, coffee, fridge, micro, fireplaces, Jacuzzis. Efficiency avail. Free Wi-Fi. www.homestead-inn.com (828) 295-9559.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway provides critical habitat for over 50 threatened and endangered plant species.

Jenkins Rentals - The finest vacation rentals in the Blowing Rock area. Homes with hot tubs, long range mountain views. www.jenkinsrentals.com (800) 438-7803.

Meadowbrook Inn - 711 Main Street - Spacious rooms & suites with fireplaces & Jacuzzis. Restaurant, indoor pool, fitness center & complimentary breakfast. www.meadowbrook-inn.com or (800) 456-5456.

Swiss Mountain Village - 2324 Flat Top Rd. Blowing Rock NC. 1/4 mile from Park. 40 cabins and swiss style chalets for retreat, fishing pond, relaxation. www.swissmountain.com

The Village Inns of Blowing Rock - Our 3 Inns are located within walking distance of Main Street. Rooms, suites & cottages available. Pet friendly. www.thevillageinnsofblowingrock.com (800) 821-4908.

Seven Devils, NC

Seven Devils— A unique Destination!



Convenient to the Blue Ridge Parkway, Grandfather Mountain and Bear Paw State Natural Area, The Town of Seven Devils offers a great starting point for your visit to the NC High Country. Located between Boone and Banner Elk, visitors can take advantage of easy access to area skiing, golfing, gem mining, trout fishing and more while enjoying the truly peaceful atmosphere of our quaint mountain community.

If you prefer your vacation a bit more action-packed, visit Hawksnest which boasts the largest snow tubing park on the east coast as well as high-flying zipline tours throughout the year. From chalets and condominiums - to mountain homes and log cabins, you will find private and unique lodging options surrounded by beautiful views in Seven Devils.

"DISCOVER OUR POSITIVE ALTITUDE"

Contact INFO

Town of Seven Devils
1356 Seven Devils Road
Seven Devils, NC 28604

828-963-5343
www.sevendevils.net



Milepost 297

JULIAN PRICE MEMORIAL PARK

Julian Price purchased this land as a recreational retreat for his employees after establishing one of the nation's largest insurance companies. After his untimely death in 1946, his heirs left the land to the Blue Ridge Parkway as a memorial to a man who shared the natural beauty of the area with others.

Today, visitors see the rebirth of a hardwood forest on hillsides where lumber companies cut virgin tracts of hemlock, poplar, and chestnut in the early 20th century. According to some, it was the "best boundary of timber in Carolina." Julian Price Memorial Park contains 4,200 acres with elevations ranging from 3,400 feet to nearly 4,000 feet.

Price Park is a haven for relaxation and recreation with the 47-acre Price Lake as its focal point. Visitors enjoy one of the most popular and largest picnic areas on the Parkway, along with camping, boating and fishing on Price Lake, and ample opportunities to explore the mountains on hiking trails. Grandfather Mountain, at 5,946 feet, rises majestically nearby.

The wilderness appeal of forested highlands and cold mountain streams at Price Park welcomes those who want to enjoy the outdoors. The Green Knob Trail, Boone Fork Trail, and Price Lake Trail offer ample hiking opportunities. The Tanawha Trail, perhaps the crowning achievement of all Parkway trails, stretches 13.5 miles from Price Park to Beacon Heights, paralleling the Parkway and rising along the slopes of Grandfather Mountain. A trek along the Tanawha Trail crosses fragile habitats and ecosystems, tunnels through laurel and rhododendron thickets, and crosses many boulder fields and cascading streams.

Whether delighting in the calm waters while driving across the dam, camping, picnicking, or experiencing the Parkway by foot, most visitors will understand why Price Park is one of the most popular of all Parkway stops.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Footsloggers - Sharing in your outdoor adventures for over 30 years. Hiking & climbing equipment, men's & ladies outer wear, footwear, paddle sports, eyewear. Come climb our 35' climbing tower - fun for all ages. Blowing Rock. (828) 262-5111. (828) 295-4453.

Grandfather Country Store - MP 298. Est. 1880's. Intersect Holloway Mtn Rd & Hwy 221 - 1 mi off Pkwy. Travel info, staples, antiques, local foods & gifts. www.grandfathercountrystore.com (828) 295-6100.

Parkway Craft Center - A shop of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, located in the Moses Cone Manor, Milepost 294, represents 400 artists of the Southern Appalachians on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Craft demonstrations offered from April to November. Open daily March 15 to November 30, 9-5 daily. Closed Thanksgiving. parkwaycraft@bellsouth.net (828) 295-7938.

292.7 **Moses H. Cone Memorial Park**, 3,600 acres. Many miles of horse and carriage trails, hiking, fishing.

294 **Moses Cone Manor House**; Parkway Craft Center; comfort station; visitor information, Park Store.

297 **Julian Price Memorial Park**. 4,344 acres. Campground, picnic area, lake, boating, fishing, trails. Alt. 3,400. Reservations for camping www.recreation.gov.

304.4 **Linn Cove Viaduct Information Center**. Visitor information, comfort station, publications. Trail access viaduct. Alt. 4,000.

305.2 **Junction Parkway and US 221**. 3 mi. west to Linville.

● SEVEN DEVILS, NC

11 miles from MP 305.2 - Via 221S to 105N. Lots of cabins to rent with beautiful views! Tennis courts, playground, zipline, tubing, waterfall. Great atmosphere, great location! www.sevendevils.net (828) 963-5343.

● AVERY COUNTY, NC

Home of the Woolly Worm Festival. Christmas trees, top resorts & attractions, skiing hub. Located in the "High Country" in the western mountains of North Carolina. Avery County Chamber of Commerce, 4501 Tynecastle Hwy Unit #2, Banner Elk, NC 28604. Open Monday-Friday from 9-4 and Saturday & Sunday from 12-4. Website: www.averycounty.com (800) 972-2183.

BANNER ELK, NC

10 miles north of Parkway on NC 184/194, exit at Milepost 305.2.

Best Western Mountain Lodge at Banner Elk - Located on Hwy. 184 only 7 miles from Milepost 304. Full service hotel. Seasonal packages. www.bestwesternbannerelk.com or call (877) 877-4553.

Smoketree Lodge - 12 miles south of Boone on Hwy 105. Nestled at the foot of Grandfather Mtn. Studio, one and two bedroom condos equipped with kitchenettes and DVD players. Heated indoor pool, saunas, Jacuzzi and cable TV. www.smoketree-lodge.com (800) 422-1880.

SUGAR MTN., NC

8 mi. from Parkway, exit MP 305.1, Hwy 221 S. to 184 N. Enjoy golf, tennis, hiking/biking, scenic lift rides, rafting, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing, and ice skating. Stay for one of our special events like the Shag at Sugar, Oktoberfest or SugarFest. Ample lodging from efficiency to large homes, for information visit www.seesugar.com or call (866) 797-8427.

Sugar Mountain Accommodations & Realty - Dereka's on the corner of Sugar Mountain Drive & Tynecastle Hwy. We offer charming Chalets and Condos. Properties are fully furnished & equipped, many are golf/view/slope-side. Call our friendly reservationist at 800-545-9475 or www.staysugar.com.

Sugar Mountain Resort Accommodations - 3390 Tynecastle Hwy 184 at Sugar Mountain. Fully equipped homes, condos, cabins, on Mtn. Rent by day/wk/mo. Real estate sales. MLS. Book online 24/7. www.staysugarmountain.com (800) 438-4555.

BEECH MTN., NC

Cresting at 5,506', Beech Mtn. is the highest town in Eastern America. Summer temps rarely exceed 75 degrees F, creating an ideal climate for hiking, mtn. biking, golf, and tennis. Winters are rich in snowfall, creating ideal ski conditions. Lodging options range from hotels to cabins. www.beechmtn.com

LINVILLE, NC

3 miles from Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 305.1.

60th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - July 9-12, 2015. America's finest gathering of Scottish Clans. Music, dancing, pageantry, athletic & children's events. www.gmhg.org (828) 733-1333.

Grandfather Mountain - Grandfather's 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, stand eye-to-eye with bears, cougars, otters, eagles and deer in natural habitats and interact with our friendly, knowledgeable staff. Two miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway Viaduct; one mile from Parkway. Take Linville Exit, MP 305 to US 221. Open daily 9-5 (weather permitting in winter). www.grandfather.com Phone (828) 733-4337 or (800) 468-7325.

The Village of Sugar Mountain, NC



With a peak elevation of 5,300', close proximity to area attractions, a variety of economical and intimate accommodations to rest your weary head, and only minutes from the Parkway, the Village of Sugar Mountain is the perfect base camp for your next mountain adventure.

Enjoy four seasons of fun in and around the Village of Sugar Mountain.

Winter:
Skiing & Snowboarding, Tubing, Snowshoeing, Ice Skating, SugarFest

Spring/Summer:
Golf, Tennis, Hiking & Mountain Biking, Outdoor Adventure Outfitters, Weekend Scenic Lift Rides, Lees McRae Summer Theater, Appalachian Summer Fest

Fall:
Golf, Tennis, Hiking, Mountain Biking, Leaf Looking, Oktoberfest, Woolly Worm Festival, Valle Country Fair, Autumn at Oz

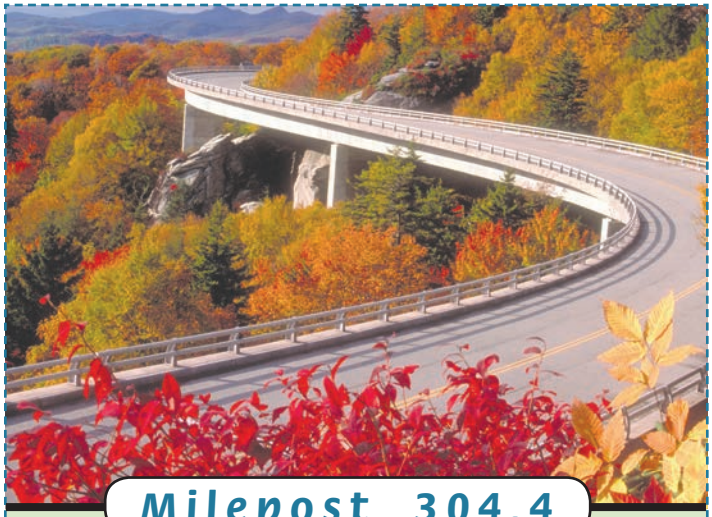
Lodging:
Chalets, Condos, Spacious Houses

Escape from the ordinary and let the adventure begin at the Village of Sugar Mountain. MP 305.2

Contact INFO

Stay and play, in the Village of Sugar Mountain!

1-866-79-SUGAR
www.seesugar.com



Milepost 304.4

LINN COVE VIADUCT

A seven mile unfinished section of the Blue Ridge Parkway was delayed for twenty years as environmentalists, adjacent landowners, engineers, and architects put their skills together on how to preserve the scenic and fragile environment on the slopes of Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina. The resulting Linn Cove Viaduct is a symbol of pride to landscape architects and engineers for its marriage of beauty with utility and habitat protection.

Visitors here will gain an appreciation for the relationship between the building of the Linn Cove Viaduct and the overall Parkway design and engineering, as well as its role in protecting the fragile habitat on Grandfather Mountain.

From the first explosion of colorful wildflowers in the spring to the refreshing coolness of summer to the fall extravaganza of color to the beauty of snow covered peaks in winter, each season provides the traveler with a completely different Parkway experience.

Pixie Motor Inn - Intersection of NC 105 and US 221. 25 Grade A units. Electric heat. Grade A Cafe nearby. Color television. Free ice for cooler. Air conditioned. (828) 733-2597.

308.2 **Flat Rock Parking Area**. Self-guiding nature trail to superb view of Linville Valley and Grandfather Mountain.

● NEWLAND, NC

8 miles north of Spruce Pine off 19E, exit at Milepost 305.1.

Native Outpost Store and A White Christmas Tree Farm - MP 317 off BRP. Old country store full of history! Local art, antiques, choose & cut Christmas trees! (828) 765-6100.

Secluded Valley RV Campground - 8 miles North of Spruce Pine on 19E. 5 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 317. 30 & 50 amp full hookups, children & pets welcome, level & spacious sites. *www.secludedvalleyrvcampground.com* (828) 765-4810.

● PINEOLA, NC

2 miles north of Parkway on US 221, exit at Milepost 305.1 or 312.

Christa's Country Corner - General store, deli, ice cream, clothing and gifts. Choose and cut Christmas trees. Straight across from Entrance/Exit. Mile Marker 312 Morganton - Pineola Exit. (828) 733-3353.

Down by the River Campground - 292 River Campground Rd. At MP 312, Right on Hwy 181 North, 1 mile down on left. 30 & 50 amp service, hot showers, spacious, level sites, laundry. (May-Oct.) *www.downbytherivercampground.com* (828) 733-5057.

Pineola Inn - US 221 3 mi. S of Linville. 1.5 mi off Milepost 312. 40 rooms, clean, reasonable rates, AC, CATV, microfridges, log cabins, honeymoon suites with Jacuzzis, cross country skiing, sales & rentals. *www.PineolaInn.com* (828) 733-4979 or 733-2008.

312 **NC 181 Crossover**, 32 miles southeast to Morganton, 2 mi. north to Pineola.

● CROSSNORE, NC

6 miles south of Linville off Hwy 221, exit at Milepost 305.9 or 312.

Crossnore Weavers & Gallery - "A working museum." Traditional hand woven textiles produced since 1920. Open Mon-Sat. Off Hwy 221 in Crossnore. (800) 374-4660. *www.crossnoreweavers.org*

316.3 **Linville Falls**. Visitor Center, campground. For camping reservations visit ***www.recreation.gov***.

316.4 **Linville River Parking Area**. One of the Parkway's largest stone arch bridges. Three spans of 80 feet each. Fish in Linville River. Picnic area. Comfort Station. Alt. 3,250. Take Spur Rd. to Linville Falls, campground and visitor center.

317.4 **US 221 Crossover**. South 1 mi. to Linville Falls community. 24 mi. to Marion.

● LINVILLE FALLS, NC

1 mile south of Parkway on US 221, exit at MP 317.4.

ATTRACTIONS

Linville Caverns - North Carolina's only show caverns. Open daily March thru November, Dec.-Jan.-Feb. weekends only. Courteous, experienced guides, outstanding gift shop. Located on US 221 between Linville and Marion, just 4 miles south of the Parkway-Exit Parkway at Milepost 317.4. Turn left on US 221 toward Linville Falls and Marion. Email: info@linvillecaverns.com (800) 419-0540. *www.linvillecaverns.com*

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cross Creek Cabins - 5 cozy log cabins, 2 mi. from MP 315. Open all year. Pet friendly. Ponds, creek, walk to Linville Falls & gorge. www.crosscreekcabins.com (828) 765-9701.

The Inn At Blue Ridge - MP 317.4 - 5 mi South on Hwy 221. A beautiful Bed & Breakfast. 12 large rooms with fireplace, refrigerator, private deck & adjacent to golf course. www.theinnatblueridge.com (828) 756-7001 toll free (866) 756-7001.

Linville Falls Lodge & Cottages - MP 317.4, US 221S, left 1 mile to Rt. 183. Restaurant (ABC permit), Walk to falls & gorge. www.linvillefallslodge.com (800) 634-4421.

Linville Falls Trailer Lodge & Campground - Milepost 317, left (south) on US 221, 500 ft. Beautifully shaded, full hookup sites. Separate wooded tent area. Cabin, trailer rental. Hot showers, playground, laundry. May 1-Nov. 1. www.linvillefalls.com (828) 765-2681. Winter # (318) 461-9899 or (318) 645-4704.

Linville Falls Winery - Come enjoy the High Country's premier wine experience. Just 1/2 mi. off the BRP, exit MP 317 on US 221 N. Daily Tours and Tasting noon - 6pm. www.LinvilleFallsWinery.com (828) 765-1400.

www.twitter.com/BRParkwayAssoc

www.facebook.com/blueridgeparkwayassociation

DID YOU KNOW?

Several of the early designers, architects, and engineers of the Blue Ridge Parkway worked together on New York's Westchester County Parkway, incorporating many of the same design elements.

Parkview Cabin - Romantic getaway two bedroom cabin with fireplace, & Jacuzzi. Full kitchen. Private mountain location. Wrap around deck with scenic views. (828) 765-4787.

Parkview Lodge - Milepost 317.4, 500 ft. south of Parkway on US 221. Private guest rooms, 1 bedroom suite, & secluded cabins available. TV, swimming pool, crafts, wine & beer shop. Free breakfast with guest room. Open all year. www.parkviewlodge.com (828) 765-4787.

320.7 **Chestoa View** offers an unusually fine view from one of the many vertical cliffs on Humpback Mountain.

Bear Den Campground - Blue Ridge Parkway @ MP 324.8. 400 acres, 144 sites. Tents to RV's. Campin' cabins. Apr-Oct 31. 600 Bear Den Mtn. Rd., Spruce Pine, NC 28777. www.bear-den.com (828) 765-2888.

Avery County, NC

Come for the day, spend a lifetime.



Avery County, North Carolina, located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains welcomes fun seekers of all ages. Experience our distinct four seasons. We are Home to the world famous Woolly Worm Festival, one of the top 10 fall festivals. Ski the highest summits of the South at our 3 state of the art ski resorts, Appalachian Ski Mountain, Beech Mountain Resort and Sugar Mountain Resort. Activities abound year round including hiking, biking, rafting, tubing, horseback riding, antiquing, fine art festivals, art galleries and more. Cross the mile high bridge at Grandfather Mountain, explore the Civil War Trail, swim, fish and canoe at beautiful Wildcat Lake or take a thrilling ride on a zipline. Visit the Blue Ridge Parkway, America's favorite scenic drive, or see the majestic mountains from the comfort of a trolley tour while visiting our award winning wineries. Visit Newland the highest county seat east of the Mississippi and celebrate our rich mountain heritage. Shop and dine in beautiful downtown Banner Elk and enjoy true Southern hospitality. Avery County offers a variety of lodging and dining to satisfy any taste and budget. Live the dream, Avery County is a sought after place to live work and play. From our top notch schools and colleges to our entrepreneurial spirit, why live anywhere else?

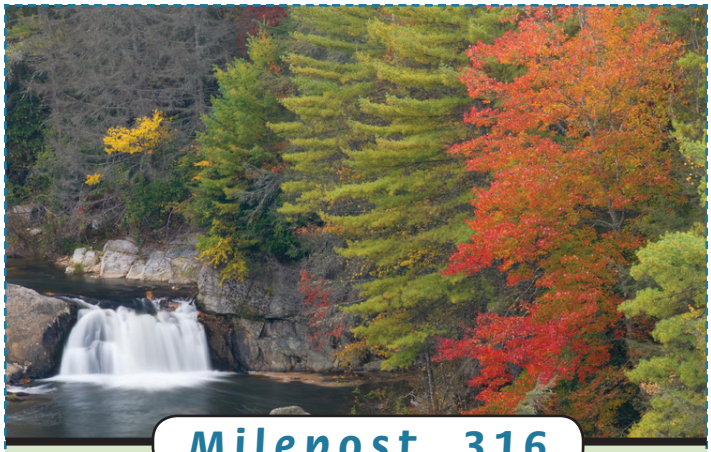
Call today for your free visitor guide. Code: BR

Contact INFO

www.townofbannerelk.org
www.sevendevils.net
www.beechmtn.com
www.seesugar.com

800-972-2183

www.averycounty.com



Milepost 316

LINVILLE FALLS

The English botanist Mark Catesby observed, described, and sketched the natural world of the Blue Ridge for seven years in the eighteenth century. His particular interest was the extensive network of streams and rivers arising along the mountains and gathering volume and speed as they descended to the coastal plain and beyond.

"The larger rivers in Carolina and Virginia," he wrote, "have their sources in the Appalachian Mountains, generally springing from rocks, and forming cascades and waterfalls... uniting into single streams... innumerable brooks and rivulets, all which contribute to form and supply the large rivers." Here at Linville Falls, Catesby's descriptions become real for the Parkway visitor.

The Linville River flows from its beginning point high on the steep slopes of Grandfather Mountain and cascades through two falls as it begins a nearly 2,000 foot descent through a rugged and spectacularly beautiful gorge. The Cherokee knew this river as "Eeseeoh" or "river of cliffs," and a hike into the gorge leaves no doubt about the origin of the name.

Towering hemlocks, dense stands of rhododendron and native wildflowers grow along the trails that encircle the falls. Little wonder this is one of the Parkway's top destinations. And what awaits the visitor who hikes down from the visitor center at Linville? A forested gorge of virgin timber stands as pristine and primitive as in the days when only Native Americans called this place home. The aquatic and forest ecology and the unique geological stories told here make a visit special.

In the early days of Parkway planning, under the shade of a hemlock tree above the falls, philanthropist John D. Rockefeller was treated to a fine picnic lunch and convinced of the necessity of protecting this piece of Appalachian scenery. The lunch was spread out within earshot of sawmills that had already begun timbering the area. After some months of negotiations, Mr. Rockefeller agreed to "pick up the tab" for the Linville Falls property, ensuring protection for Parkway visitors today.

We may not immediately think of the Blue Ridge Parkway as a park rich in water resources. But from Native Americans to colonial botanists and 21st century tourists, the waterways and streams of the Blue Ridge have played a vital role in the overall ecology and unsurpassed beauty of our region. The Blue Ridge Parkway, like all national parks, is set aside to protect these special parts of our world.

Creek Side Cabins - Blue Ridge Pkwy MP 324.8. Fully furnished with all amenities including Jacuzzi, fireplace. Cabins for 2-10 guests. Open yr. round. www.bear-den.com (828) 765-2888.

● MARION, NC

24 miles from Parkway via US 221, exit at Milepost 317.4.

Sarah's Song Cabin - near Pkwy, 3 mi. to beautiful Lake James. TV, DVD, WiFi, fireplace, huge front porch, grill, rocking chairs, full kitchen/bath. Sleeps 2+++. www.sarahssongcabin.com (828) 659-2879.

Tom Johnson Camping Center - Quick Parkway access. Full service RV sales, service, parts, camping. 800) 225-7802 www.TomJohnsonCamping.com

Yogi Bear's Jellystone Park - Marion, NC. Family fun! RV sites, tent sites, and cabins. www.jellystonemarion.com (828) 652-7208.

● McDOWELL COUNTY, NC

Welcome to our spectacular region of the Blue Ridge Parkway between Linville Falls and Crabtree Falls, Mileposts 316 to 344. Visit the unique community of Little Switzerland with gem mines, shopping, museum and the Orchard at Altapass, MP 328.3. Explore our hiking, cycling and waterfall trails, trout streams, caverns, Lake James, gold mines and golf courses or find adventure canoeing, boating, swimming or bird watching. You'll also enjoy discovering our towns of Marion and Old Fort where you'll find unique lodging properties, fun events, arts and craft sites, shops and more online or call us for information. www.ncblueridge.org (877) 337-6756.

The Altapass Orchard - MP 328, Family fun, storytelling, hayrides, free music - Sat, Sun, Wed-Friday, fudge, ice cream, gifts, apples, books, crafts, seasonal 5/15 - 10/31. (888) 765-9531.

331 **NC 226 Crossover**. 6 mi. north to Spruce Pine. 14 mi. south to Marion.



Spring brings showy blooms throughout the region.

DID YOU KNOW?

Snakes
Part of Our World!

Like all wild animals, snakes tend to shy away from humans. They play an important role in the ecosystem, feeding on small rodents and helping to keep those populations in balance. In these mountains, Copperhead and Timber Rattler are the only poisonous varieties. On cool summer mornings or evenings, snakes will look for the warmest places such as rocks, pavement, or any sunny place. Be aware, be alert, and stay on the trails!

331 **Museum of North Carolina Minerals**. Junction of Parkway & NC 226. Features minerals found in North Carolina and regional geology. Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce office. Restrooms. Open daily year-round.

331 **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, near the Mineral Museum. Administered by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/ovvi.

● PENLAND, NC

8 miles north of Parkway via NC 226N, exit at Milepost 331.

Penland Gallery - At Penland School of Crafts in Mitchell County, featuring contemporary craft and information about area studios. Open Tues-Sun from early March to mid-Dec. Exit Parkway at US 226; follow 226N 7.5 miles; turn onto Penland Rd; follow signs to Penland School. Call (828) 765-6211.

● MITCHELL COUNTY, NC

Exit Milepost 331. Gem mining, gem & mineral shops, Gem & Mineral Festival, Rhododendron Festival, whitewater rafting, Appalachian Trail/Roan Mountain, Penland School of Crafts, NC's largest indoor recreational facility. For accommodations, event dates & attractions, contact: Chamber of Commerce, 79 Parkway Rd., Spruce Pine, NC 28777. Email: info@mitchell-county.com. Web site: www.mitchell-county.com (828) 765-9483 or (800) 227-3912.

● SPRUCE PINE, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via NC 226, exit at Milepost 331.

ATTRACTIONS

Gem Mountain - 13780 Hwy. 226S 1 mile from Parkway MP 331. Open March-December Monday-Saturday. As seen on the Learning and Travel channels. Gem mine rain or shine. www.gemmountain.com Call (888) 817-5829.

LODGING & CAMPING

Peak Mountain Cottages & Retreat Center - On 300 acres 7 miles N of Pkwy. Room to play or relax. Hiking trails, clear mtn streams. 460 Rabbit Hop Rd near Penland. Individuals, families or groups up to 25. www.peakmountaincottages.com (828) 765-9559.

Pine Valley Motel - Clean, modern, rooms, apt. 42 unit - all first floor, micro/fridge in rooms. 4 mi on NC 226N from MP 331 - Mineral Museum. Laundromat on site, wireless internet. Open all year. www.pinevalleymotel.com (866) 671-2246.

Richmond Inn Bed and Breakfast - 51 Pine Ave. MP 331 - 5 miles from Parkway in Spruce Pine. Eight comfortable guest rooms each with private bath and TV. Open year round. Top Trip Advisor status. www.richmondinn.us or (828) 765-6993.

Springmaid Mountain Campground/Cabins - Retreat, horses/tubing/fishing. 7 mi N of MP 331 @ 2171 Henredon Rd. Year round. www.springmaidmountain.com (888) 297-0725.

SHOPPING

Blue Ridge Soap Shed - See soap made. Enjoy 130 Varieties of handmade soap in retail shop. Open 10-5 Mon-Sat, April-December. 6/10th mi. from Parkway MP 331 on NC 226N toward Spruce Pine@179 Meadow View Rd. Web orders welcome year-round. Visit www.soapshed.com or call (828) 765-6001.



Museum of North Carolina Minerals. Image courtesy NPS

DID YOU KNOW?

Much of the forests surrounding the Parkway are made up of stunted oak and oak-hickory trees. More Flora includes various grasses, shrubs (including Rhododendrons and Dogwoods), hemlock, mixed-oak pine forests and spruce-fir forests.

317.4 **US 221 Crossover.** South 1 mi. to Linville Falls community. 24 mi. to Marion.

334 **NC 226A Crossover** to Little Switzerland.

● LITTLE SWITZERLAND, NC

Just off Parkway on Rt. 226A, exit at Milepost 334.

ATTRACTIONS

Emerald Village - 3 miles from Parkway at Little Switzerland. Gem mining, gold panning, mine tours, waterfall, free exhibits, real mines, fun shopping! NC's Gem! *www.emeraldvillage.com* (828) 765-6463.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Alpine Inn - Clinging to the side of Grassy Mountain with THE most spectacular views in Little Switzerland. Rooms with large private balconies. Free sunrise, Wi-Fi, picnic area, grill, firepit. Reasonable rates. From MP 334, 1 mi. S on 226A. *www.alpineinnnc.com* (828) 765-5380.

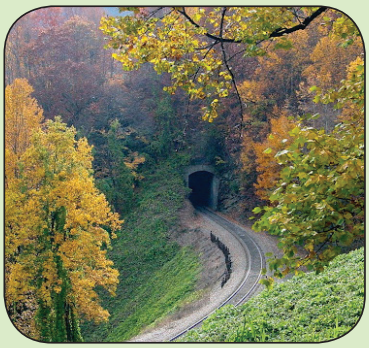
Switzerland Cafe & General Store - Hwy 226A, Milepost 334. Open 7 days. Imported beers, wines & cheeses, picnic supplies, T-shirts, crafts. *www.switzerlandcafe.com* (828) 765-5289.

Switzerland Inn & Chalet Restaurant - Located directly on Parkway. Established in 1910. Variety of accommodations including mountain view suites, cottages & rooms in the main lodge. Chalet Restaurant serves three meals daily. Gracious casual atmosphere with old world charm. Tennis, golf privileges, swimming, fire pit, unique shops on property. Milepost 334. PO Box 399, Little Switzerland, NC 28749. *www.switzerlandinn.com* (828) 765-2153 (800) 654-4026.

Timberline Vacation Rentals - 2-12 guests. Near Blue Ridge Pkwy. Great views. Fully furnished. Pets welcome. *www.TimberlineNC.com* (800) 321-4342.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit www.nps.gov/blri

McDowell County, NC



Explore our Blue Ridge Parkway communities between Linville Falls and Crabtree Falls, Milepost 316 to 344, including the Orchard at Altapass and Little Switzerland. Take the scenic route to Marion, where you'll stroll the streets enjoying local eateries, arts/crafts and vintage shopping. Old Fort's railroad museum, c. 1881 is a favorite, along with seasonal events at Mountain Gateway Museum.

Follow the Blue Ridge Traveler's Wine Trail, our spectacular McDowell Quilt Trail and scenic driving trails including the DiamondbackNC, The White House Run, Lake James Loop and Cruising for Gold at Vein Mountain trail. Events, gallery sites, lodging and directions are available online.

Gold, gems and other mountain treasures are less than 2 hours from Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Charlotte and Greenville/ Spartanburg!

Don't Miss:

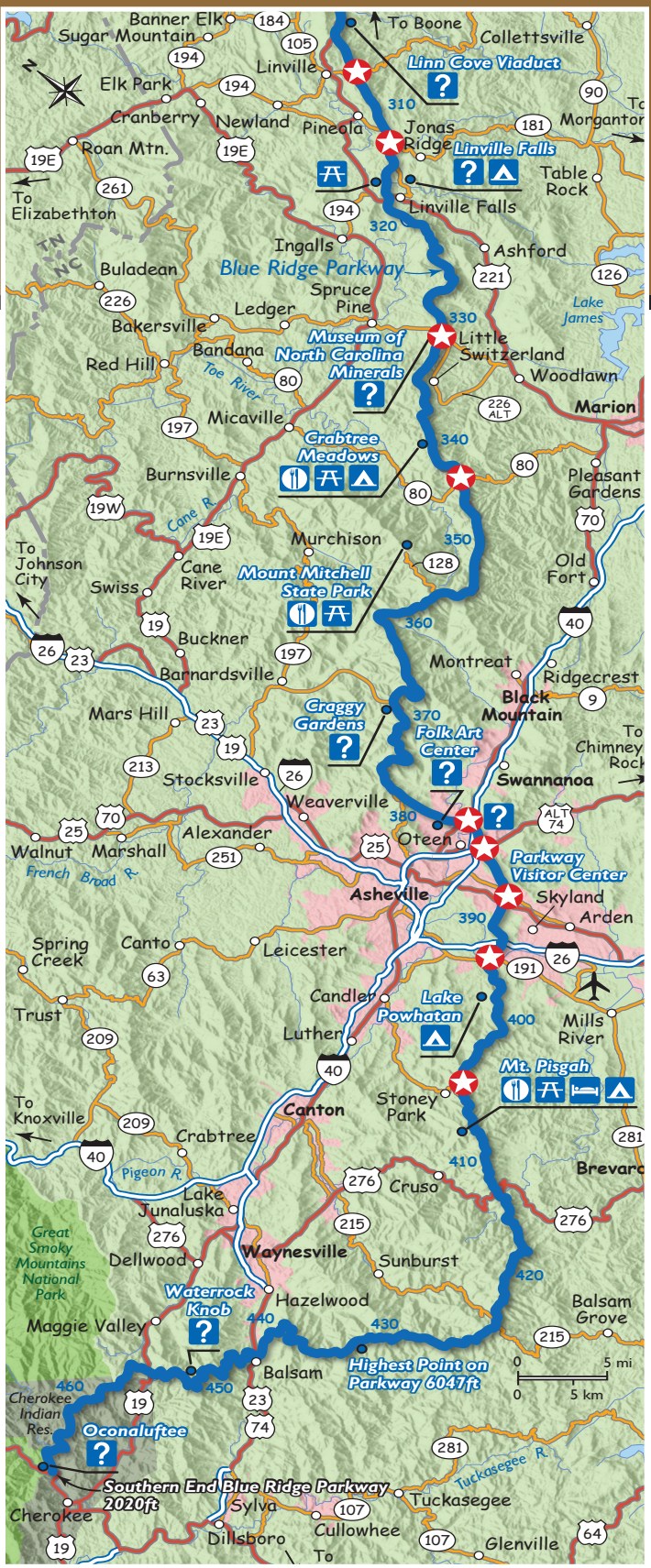
- Linville Caverns
- Curtis Creek Recreation Area
- Point Lookout Trail (Bike or Hike)
- Historic Carson House
- South Creek Vineyard
- Pristine Trout Streams
- Belle Nicho Winery and Orchard at Altapass
- 2 State Parks at Lake James
- Mountain Gateway Museum
- Davidson's Fort
- Catawba River Greenway
- Catawba Falls

877-337- 6754

www.blueridgedrives.org

Blue Ridge Parkway Pisgah Region:

Milepost 340, Crabtree Falls to Milepost 469, Cherokee, NC



DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway ranges in elevation from 649 feet at James River in Virginia to almost 6,050 feet at Richland Balsam, south of Mount Pisgah, North Carolina.

339.5 **Crabtree Falls**. 250 acres. Hiking, camping, comfort station, drinking water, information, Wi-Fi. 40 minute walk to Crabtree Falls.

340.4 **Crabtree Falls Picnic Area**.

344 **Buck Creek Gap**, NC 80 Crossover. North 16 mi. to Burnsville, south 16 miles to Marion.

● BURNSVILLE, NC

Enjoy small town charm with Bed & Breakfasts, inns, handmade crafts, shops, summer theatre, golf, hiking, camping, musical events & festivals on Burnsville's Town Square. (800) 948-1632. *www.yanceychamber.com*

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Albert's Inn - 76 S Toe River Road, 2 miles N of BRP, MP 344. Comfortable rooms with spectacular views of the Black Mtns. *www.AlbertsMotel.com* (828) 675-4691.

Black Mountain & Briar Bottom - 46 primitive sites/6 group sites. 50 Black Mountain Campground Rd., Burnsville, NC. Enjoy fly fishing, swimming, & tubing. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area - 31 campsites. 6000 Hwy. 80 South, Burnsville, NC. Some sites with river access, near Mt. Mitchell. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

J and J's Grill on the Green - 11510 Hwy 80 S. Bavarian and American food. Fresh trout, bar, inside/outside dining. Beautiful views, seasonal. (828) 675-1400.

MAP KEY: Refer to page 23 for explanation of symbols



Milepost 364

CRAGGY GARDENS

The name here is appropriate - Craggy Gardens. Twisted, jagged, rocky "crags" give the place its name, but these high elevation summits are home to the most spectacular floral display along the 469 mile Parkway corridor. For generations, visitors have headed for the Craggies in mid to late June, typically the prime time for viewing the pink and purple blooms of Catawba rhododendrons that blanket much of the area.

In addition to the "rhodies," the Craggies turn red in the fall with a spectacular show of mountain ash berries that can cast a scarlet glow over the entire area. The same species dominates parts of the highlands of Scotland as well and "craggy" is a term that many of the early settlers brought from their homeland to describe the rugged Blue Ridge.

High elevations such as Craggy Gardens yield an abundance of wildflowers and rare plants. From a distance, treeless areas such as the craggies appear bare and have become known as "balds." There are two types of appalachian balds... grassy and heath. The former are dominated by grasses, wildflowers and occasional members of the heath family. Heath balds are typically home to low growing rhododendron, mountain laurel, blueberries and flame Azalea. Although these balds are disappearing for reasons that are unclear, both can still be found at the craggies. Because of the presence of rare and endangered plants, easily damaged by careless hikers, please stay on the trails – for their safety and for your own!

Harsh weather can invade these exposed, high elevation ridgetops, resulting in the gnarled forests of twisted beech, birch, and buckeye. At 5,500 feet elevation, weather conditions here are severe. Strong winds, ice storms, and the short growing season dwarf and twist anything that dares to grow here.

With or without warning, severe weather can come to the Craggies, so always be prepared for colder temperatures and high winds.

Toe River Campground - 225 Patience Park Rd. M.P. 344 - Apprx. 10 miles North on Hwy. 80. Family campground on South Toe River. toeriver@yanceycountync.gov www.toerivercampground.com (828) 675-5104.

SHOPPING

Something Special Gift Shop - Downtown Burnsville. A unique shop in a country store setting. One block from picturesque town square. Mon-Sat 9-6. (828) 682-9101.

355.4 **NC 128**. To Mount Mitchell State Park. Highest Peak in Eastern U.S.A., Observation Tower, Tent Camping Area, Trails, Nature Study, Picnic Area, Natural History Museum, Restaurant. (May-October).

364.4 **Craggy Gardens Visitor Center.** Information, exhibits, publications. (May-October) Trails.

367.6 **Spur to Craggy Gardens**. Picnic area, Comfort Station, trails.

376.6 **NC 694**, Ox Creek Road. Scenic Elk Mountain Highway. 8 miles to Weaverville. 7 miles to Asheville.

● WEAVERVILLE, NC

10 miles north of Asheville on US 19-23.

Dry Ridge Inn B&B - A relaxed small town B&B. 10 minutes from downtown Asheville, the Biltmore, and the Parkway. www.dryridgeinn.com (800) 839-3899.

Ox-ford Farm B&B Inn - Original working mountain farm on National Historic Register. Cattle, sheep, poultry. Very private, beautiful location. Great breakfast. 2 mi. MP 375 (828) 658-2500.

377.4 **NC 694. Town Mountain Road**. 7 Miles to Asheville.

● BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC

"The Front Porch of WNC." Unique craft shops, large antique malls, Old Depot Craft Center, Bed & Breakfasts, variety of restaurants. Hiking, biking trails, camping, festivals, nightly music clubs. Chamber of Commerce, 201 E. State St. (828) 669-2300.

Carolina Foam Fabric & Home Decor - Dress fabric, upholstery fabric & large selection of quilters fabric. I-40 Exit 64 behind Pizza Hut, 5 miles east of Parkway on I-40. (828) 669-2400.

Lake Eden Events & Lodging - Just 15 minutes off the Parkway, we have several pet and family friendly options here at Lake Eden. www.lakeedenevents.com (855) 525-3336.

Red Rocker Inn - Black Mtn. NC. 10 miles off MP 382.6. Awarded, newly renovated B&B and restaurant. Open year round. www.redrockerinn.com (888) 669-5991.



Hiking in the Crabtree Falls area

Town Hardware & General Store - Three historic buildings full of old-fashioned tools, toys and housewares plus lots more. Open 7 days/wk. 103 W. State Street, Black Mountain. www.townhardware.com (828) 669-7723.

382.0 **Folk Art Center** - Parkway information station, publications. Headquarters of Southern Highland Craft Guild, craft sales, demonstrations and exhibits, interpretive talks and other programs, conferences, craft library, auditorium and Guild offices. Hours: Daily 9-5. Hours extended in summer. (handicapped friendly).

382.6 **Junction Parkway and US 70**. West 1 mi. to Oteen, 5 mi. to Asheville. East 10 mi. to Black Mountain.

384 **Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters** is located just off the Parkway at Milepost 383. Information may be obtained by writing to this address: 199 Hemphill Knob Rd, Asheville, NC 28803 or calling (828) 298-0398. Detailed information may be found on the National Park Service's Parkway Web Site at www.nps.gov/blri Brochures also available in French, German & Spanish.

384 **Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center** - Information desk, museum quality exhibits, a 22-foot interactive map and a dramatic 24-minute Parkway movie. Open daily 9-5. www.blueridgeheritage.com (828) 298-5330.

384.7 **US 74A Crossover**. West 3 mi. to Asheville. East to Chimney Rock, Bat Cave, Gerton, and Lake Lure.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway celebrated its 75th anniversary throughout 2010 with events in dozens of adjacent communities.

Asheville, NC



The Destination That's Like No Other in the South

Explore Asheville, a sophisticated little city in the mountains with a rhythm and vibe all its own. Get your fill of inventive cuisine from more than 250 independent restaurants that take farm-to-table to a whole new level. Take your pick of clubs offering live music from local legends and national names in a variety of soul-stirring styles. Sip innovative cocktails and award-winning craft beers. Wander through the 250-room Biltmore House, America's largest home. Browse downtown Asheville's 30-plus galleries and stroll through working artists' studios in the River Arts District. Go zip-lining and whitewater rafting just outside the city or venture out on the cheese trail.

Whether you come for one of the city's many festivals or just to get inspired, start your trip at the Asheville Visitor Center. There you can purchase Biltmore tickets and jump on a trolley tour for an introduction to the area.

It's amazing what a couple of nights in Asheville can do. Visit ExploreAsheville.com to book your stay today.

Contact INFO

36 Montford Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 258-6101

877-GO-TO-AVL
ExploreAsheville.com

● CHIMNEY ROCK & GERTON, NC

25 miles SE of Asheville on US 64/74A, exit at Milepost 384.7.

ATTRACTIONS

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park - the best of the NC mountains in one place. Stunning 75-mile views over Lake Lure, several unique hiking trails and geological features such as Devil's Head and the Opera Box, a 26-story elevator built inside the mountain, a 404 foot waterfall. Pet friendly. Just 25 mi. SE of Asheville, NC. www.chimneyrockpark.com (800) 277-9611.

LODGING

Chimney Rock Inn - Cozy rooms, private cottages with full kitchens. Jacuzzis, fireplaces, heated pool, beautiful gardens riverside. www.chimneyrockinn.net (800) 625-2003.

Hickory Nut Falls Family Campground - Tent, pop up, TR & MH. W&S 15 & 30 amp. Gm/Ld rm, hot showers. Apr-Oct. PO Box 97, Chimney Rock, NC. (828) 625-4014. www.hickorynutfallsfamilycampground.com

● LAKE LURE, NC

28 miles southeast of Asheville on US 74A, exit at Milepost 384.7.

Fox Run Townhouses - Lake Lure. Townhouses with full kitchens, fireplaces, washer/dryers and Jacuzzi tubs, golf, tennis and water activities. www.8664myvacation.com (866) 469-8222.

Lodge on Lake Lure - 17 rooms with lake views & lake access, private balconies, fireplaces. The only Lodge actually on Lake Lure! Includes a full breakfast each morning. www.lodgeonlakelure.com (800) 733-2785.



NPS staff provide valuable information to visitors.

DID YOU KNOW?

Parkway "Gunboards"

In the early days of Parkway design, the long rifle and accompanying powder horn were thought to be the best and most iconic image to represent the stories of the mountain settlers and frontiersmen. These were incorporated into the original signs at overlooks and developed areas. They are now recognized as part of the Parkway's history and early design elements.

● ASHEVILLE, NC

This mountain resort city at Milepost 382.6 of the Blue Ridge Parkway beckons lovers of festivals, the outdoors, fine restaurants, distinctive shopping, and Biltmore Estate, a 250-room French Renaissance chateau. The Visitors Center at Exit 4C off I-240 is open every day, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M-F and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekends. www.exploreasheville.com (828) 258-6101.

ATTRACTIONS

Biltmore Estate - Enjoy once-in-a-lifetime experiences at Biltmore in Asheville, NC. Explore our refuge from the everyday at America's largest home®, magnificent gardens, winery, farm, restaurants, and shops. For a complete escape, relax in luxurious comfort at our Four-Star Inn on Biltmore Estate®, the only accommodations on estate grounds. Open daily. Annual events include: Festival of Flowers; Summer Evening Concerts; Flower Carpet; Christmas at Biltmore; and Candlelight Christmas Evenings. Located on US 25, just north of the Parkway and I-40. Plan your getaway online at www.biltmore.com or call 1-877-BILTMORE.

Discover NC Blue Ridge - ***Comprehensive guide to the heart of NC's Blue Ridge Mountains - what to see and do, where to stay and eat, and more. Go to www.ncblueridge.com.***

The North Carolina Arboretum - Entrance at MP 393. Renowned gardens, hiking & biking trails and engaging exhibitions. www.ncarboretum.org (828) 665-2492.

WNC Farmers Market - 570 Brevard Rd. Asheville Exit 47 I-40. Exit 33 I-26. Open daily. Enjoy local produce, crafts, plants and restaurant. FREE. www.wncfarmersmarket.org (828) 253-1691.

WNC Nature Center - MP 382.6, 75 Gashes Creek Rd. 60+ native species of the Southern Appalachians. Cougars, bears, otters, red wolves & more! 10-5 daily. www.wncnaturecenter.com (828) 298-5600.

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

Bellagio Art-to-Wear - Showcases exquisite collections of distinctive clothing, jewelry and decorative accessories by acclaimed American artists in an opulent boutique setting. This gallery is located steps away from its sister gallery, New Morning Gallery. 5 Biltmore Plaza, Exit Milepost 388.8. For more info *www.bellagioarttowear.com*; e-mail: bellagioart2wear@bellsouth.net (800) 933-4438.

Blue Spiral 1 - Presents contemporary Southeastern fine art and crafts through over 25 annual exhibitions in a stunning three-level, 15,000 sq. ft. setting. The gallery features the work of one hundred regional artists. This spacious gallery is located in downtown Asheville, one block South of Pack Square. 38 Biltmore Ave; Exit Milepost 388.8. E-mail: info@bluespiral1.com. For more info (828) 251-0202. *www.bluespiral1.com*.

Folk Art Center - Milepost 382. Home facility of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Features craft shop of regional crafts, 3 exhibition galleries, daily craft demonstrations, special events. Parkway information and bookstore. National Park Service programs during season. Open daily 9-6 April-Dec; 9-5 Jan-March. Web site: *www.southernhighlandguild.org* (828) 298-7928.

Grand Bohemian Art Gallery - This unique gallery showcases over 100 works of art by local, regional & internationally recognized artists designed to inspire the collector in all of us. Located in Biltmore Village. (888) 717-8756.



Fall color transforms the landscape.

New Morning Gallery - A fine crafts destination for over 30 years, offers a unique selection of hand-crafted furniture, home accessories, pottery, glass, jewelry, garden sculpture and other imaginative gifts by American artisans in a 12,500 sq. ft. setting. The gallery is located in Historic Biltmore Village, two blocks from Biltmore Estate's entrance. 7 Boston Way; Exit Milepost 388.8. e-mail: newmorning@bellsouth.net; For more info: (800) 933-4438. *www.newmorninggallerync.com*.

Southern Highland Craft Gallery - Featuring fine regional crafts. 26 Lodge St., Biltmore Village, Asheville, NC. *www.craftguild.org* (828) 277-6222.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area



Learn about the beautiful and authentic natural and cultural heritage of the North Carolina mountains and foothills with a visit to the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center near Asheville, at Milepost 384. Here you can get personal guidance and information from both park rangers and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area's regional information desk.

The LEED certified gold building is worth a visit in itself, with museum-quality exhibits, a 22-foot interactive map of the entire Parkway, and a free, award-winning 24-minute movie in high definition with surround sound that will introduce you with stunning video to this remarkable region. The gift shop offers guidebooks, CDs, children's goods, souvenirs and products from the region.

Start your journey through the lush green forests and mystical blue mountains of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center.

The Blue Ridge National Heritage Area—protecting, preserving and celebrating one of the most beautiful regions on Earth and the cultural heritage of the people who shaped its history and traditions.

Contact INFO

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area
Offices at the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center
195 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, NC 28803

828-298-5330

www.blueridgeheritage.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Isolated or Connected?

Places on the Parkway today that seem remote, containing only one or two buildings, were sometimes connected to communities off of the mountains by well-traveled roads. "Turnpikes" or toll roads were built across the mountains during the 1840s and 1850s. Especially in Virginia's portion of the Blue Ridge, which is very narrow, these roads connected the fertile Shenandoah Valley farmland with coastal cities.

Stuart Nye Hand Wrought Jewelry - World famous handcrafters of sterling, copper & brass jewelry. Visitors may see craftsmen at work Monday thru Friday 8:00-11:30 & 12:30-3:30. 1 mile west of Parkway on US 70 at 940 Tunnel Rd. No charge. Web: *www.stuartnye.com*

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area - ***Protecting, preserving & celebrating one of the most beautiful regions on earth, and the cultural heritage of those who shaped its history & traditions. Located in the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center, 195 Hemphill Knob Rd.*** **www.blueridgeheritage.com** ***(828) 298-5330.***

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Asheville Biltmore Fairfield Inn & Suites - Left onto 191, less than 2 miles on your left. Complimentary hot breakfast, Wi-Fi, and indoor pool. *www.ashevillebiltmorefairfieldinn.com*

Asheville Cabins of Willow Winds - 25 Luxury cabins, 38 acres adjacent to B.R. Parkway & Mountain to Sea Trail. *www.ashevillecabins.com* (800) 235-2474.

Asheville East KOA Campground - 6 1/2 miles from Parkway. Go east on Hwy 70. Kamping Kabins, lodges, RV & tent sites. 2 fishing lakes, pool, trout stream on 55 acres. Open year-round. *www.ashevilleeastkoa.com* (828) 686-3121 or (800) 562-5907.

Asheville West KOA - New Owners, New Attitude, New Fun! I-40 Exit 37, Minutes to Biltmore House, Gem Mining, River Rafting, Music, Arts & Crafts - Full Hookups, Tents & Kabins. (800) 562-9015.

Baymont Inn Biltmore - I-40 Exit 50 or 50B. Near Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village. 2 miles north from Blue Ridge Parkway on US 25. Indoor pool & spa. Free Cont. Breakfast. AAA, AARP. (828) 274-2022 or toll free (800) 337-0550.

Bear Creek RV Park - Exit Rt. 191 from Parkway; I-40 Exit 47; or I-26 Exit 2. 3 miles north of Parkway off Rt. 191. 5 mins. Biltmore House. 90 full hookups, paved sites, pool, laundry. Open year round. *www.ashevillebearcreek.com* (800) 833-0798.

Bent Creek Lodge - 10 Parkway Crs. MP 394, Exit for NC Arboretum then 1/2 mile south on 191. Elegantly rustic lodge, mt. views, comfy beds, hiking trails, fireplace & great breakfast. 10 mi. to Asheville. *www.bentcreeknc.com* (877) 231-6574.

Campfire Lodgings - 7 mi. from dwtn. Asheville. Mtn. top camping, full service RV sites, yurts & cliff house. Open year-round. *www.campfirelodgings.com* (828) 658-8012.

Carolina Mornings - A cabin changes everything! Experience the true essence of luxury in Asheville. Fido welcome! *www.CarolinaMornings.com/BRP* (877) 929-4187.

Chestnut Street Inn - 176 East Chestnut St. Come see why everyone loves us! 2.5 blocks to downtown Avl., made from scratch brkfst, *www.chestnutstreetinn.com* (828) 285-0705.

Clarion Inn - Asheville Airport, 24 hour free airport shuttle. Complimentary hot breakfast, WIFI, indoor & outdoor pool. Full service restaurant & bar. *www.ashevilleclarion.com*

Country Inn & Suites Asheville Downtown Tunnel Road - 199 Tunnel Road. 3 miles from Parkway. 100% non-smoking, indoor pool & spa, free hot breakfast, 1 mile from downtown. (828) 254-4311.

Country Inn & Suites - I-26 Exit 33. 1 mile from Parkway. Free deluxe continental breakfast. Close to Biltmore Square Mall & Biltmore Estate. Outdoor heated pool, 2 room suites, some w/ whirlpool. (828) 670-9000.

Courtyard by Marriott - 1 Buckstone Place. Exit MP 382, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Bistro Restaurant, indoor pool, spa, fitness center. *www.courtyardasheville.com* (800) 321-2211 or (828) 281-0041.



Split rail fence



Proximity to four major rivers makes Asheville a whitewater paradise.

Crowne Plaza Tennis & Golf Resort - 1 mile from downtown, Exit 3A, 5 minutes from Parkway, wellness center, spa, golf, tennis, indoor/outdoor pool, zipline, restaurant, lounge, complimentary wireless. *www.crowneplaza.com/asheville* (828) 254-3211.

Econo Lodge-Airport - Located at I-26 exit 40. Minutes to Blue Ridge Parkway, Biltmore House, airport, & WNC Agriculture Center. DSL wire & wireless. Cable TV. (828) 684-1200.

Engadine Inn and Cabins - 2630 Smoky Park Highway, Asheville (Candler), NC, 6.5 mi., 10 min. from MP 393.6. 5 B&B rooms in circa 1885 Inn, plus 6 private cabins. *www.honeyhillasheville.com* (828) 633-1110.

Grand Bohemian Hotel Asheville - Located in Biltmore Village just steps away from the Biltmore Estate. 11 Boston Way, 3 miles from Parkway. Red Stag Grill, Spa & Art Gallery. (888) 717-8756.

The Omni Grove Park Inn - 290 Macon Ave. via Charlotte St. Exit from downtown I-240. Historic resort with world-class spa, dining, and golf. *www.groveparkinn.com* (800) 438–5800.

GuestHouse International Inn Biltmore - I-40 to exit 50 or exit 50B. Nearest to Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village. 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Outdoor pool, deluxe Cont. breakfast. (828) 274-0101 or (800) 465-4329.

Hampton Inn Biltmore Square - Exit Milepost 393.6, go 2.5 miles north on Highway 191. Free breakfast, indoor pool, spa. Close to Biltmore Square Mall and Biltmore Estate. *www.ashevillehotelgroup.com* (828) 667-2022.

Hampton Inn Tunnel Rd - Exit Milepost 382.6, go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Hotel is on the right. Free breakfast bar, indoor pool, spa, fitness center. Close to Downtown Asheville and Biltmore. *www.ashevillehotelgroup.com* (828) 255-9220.

Hickory Nut Gap Farm - 9 miles east on 74A. Visit animals, pick berries, picnic, purchase meats! *www.hickorynutgapfarm.com* (828) 628-1027.

Holiday Inn Biltmore East at the Blue Ridge Parkway - Exit one mile on US 70 East, hotel located on left. Mountain view rooms, pet friendly rooms, full service restaurant, fitness center, scenic seasonal outdoor pool. Only 7 minutes to Biltmore Estate and Downtown Asheville. *www.biltmorehotels.com* e-mail: hieastsales@biltmorehotels.com (828) 298-5611.

Homewood Suites by Hilton - 88 Tunnel Rd - Exit MP 382, go 3 miles west on US 70. Hotel is on right. Free full breakfast, spacious suites, indoor pool. Close to Asheville Mall and Biltmore Estate. *www.ashevillehomewoodsuites.com* (828) 252-5400.

Lake Powhatan Recreation Area - 96 campsites. 375 Wesley Branch Road, Asheville, NC. Beach and fishing pier. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

Log Cabin Motor Court - Cozy, historic log cabins 5 miles from downtown Asheville - 330 Weaverville Highway *www.theashevillecabins.com* (828) 645-6546.

Mama Gertie's Hideaway - MP 382.6, go east 6 miles on Hwy. 70. Turn right on Patton Cove Rd. Go 3/4 mi. uphill thru residential area. RV sites, tenting and cabins. Secluded, peaceful, unique setting and exceptionally clean. Open year round. *www.mamagerties.com* (877) 686-4258.

The Mountaineer Inn - 155 Tunnel Rd. 1½ miles from Parkway MP 332.6. Clean, quiet rooms away from traffic, cont breakfast. Coffee & refrigerators in rooms. 1 mile from center of downtown & mall. *www.mtinnasheville.homestead.com* (800) 255-4080.

North Lodge on Oakland - 84 Oakland Rd, six-room elegant Inn, private baths, downtown 1 mile North, Biltmore Estate 1 mile South, MP 389, 5% disc for AAA, AARP members, *www.northlodge.com* (800) 282-3602.

The Pines Cottages - 346 Weaverville Rd, Asheville, NC. "Old School Awesome." Vintage cottages, modern amenities. *www.ashevillepines.com* (828) 645-9661.

Quality Inn & Suites Biltmore South - Close to Biltmore Park Town Square, Biltmore Estate, & North Carolina Arboretum. 1 Skyland Inn Dr, Arden, I-26 exit # 37. (828) 684-6688.

DID YOU KNOW?

Wild Turkey

European settlers came to America's shores and were intrigued by the wild turkey, and it quickly became a staple of the diet. But, the unchecked logging and hunting that followed as settlement swept across the continent caused such disturbance to the habitat that the turkey was practically eliminated from the region. As forests have returned and the science of forest management has progressed, however, reintroduction of the turkey and its natural population explosion has taken off. The return of this majestic bird reflects changing attitudes and efforts to improve the overall status of southern Appalachian wildlife.

Ramada Inn - 1/2 mile off Parkway at US 74 and I-240 Exit 8. 178 rooms, suites with kitchenettes and Jacuzzis. Playground area, pool, free continental breakfast. (828) 298-9141.

The Residences at Biltmore - 700 Biltmore Ave. Fully stocked condo units (studio, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, 3-bedrooms). Pool & hot tub, daily - long term. www.residencesatbiltmore.com (866) 433-5594.

Shoji Spa & Lodge - Relax at Asheville's only outdoor hot tub spa along the Parkway. Unwind in our private hot tubs in the woods, cold plunge, sauna. Stay at The Lodge. 26 massage therapists. Minutes to town. www.shojiretreats.com. By appt. Call now! (828) 299-0999.

SpringHill Suites by Marriott - 2 Buckstone Place Exit Milepost 382 go 2.5 miles west on US 70. Free Breakfast, indoor pool, studio suites. Be sure to check out our Bike the Blue Ridge Package or ask about our special Blue Ridge Parkway discount rates. www.springhillsuitesasheville.com (828) 253-4666.

Sweet Peas Hostel - 23 Rankin Ave., Asheville. Beds starting at $28 - in the heart of downtown. Clean, comfortable, showers, kitchen, laundry, Wi-Fi/comp. www.sweetpeashostel.com (828) 285-8488.

Download our free *Blue Ridge Parkway - Travel Planner* **mobile app directly to your smartphone.**

Discover Hendersonville, NC



Hendersonville is located in the Western North Carolina between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Great Smokies, 22 miles south of Asheville, 15 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Festivals, hiking, biking, historical sites, golf, children's activities, dining, and a variety of lodging choices will make your visit memorable. Henderson County abounds with many diverse attractions all located within a few miles of downtown: Sierra Nevada Brewery, Flat Rock Playhouse, Jump Off Rock scenic overlook, DuPont State Recreational Forest, Carl Sandburg Home, Holmes Educational State Forest, and the Western North Carolina Air Museum. The Hendersonville Visitor Center is located at 201 South Main Street in Downtown Hendersonville. For a free Vacation Planner call 800-828-4244 or visit historichendersonville.org

It's easy to find year 'round activities for the entire family in Hendersonville, North Carolina!

For more information and Free Vacation Planner
Call 828-693-9708 • 800-828-4244

Contact INFO

Visitor Information Center:
Open 7 days - 362 days a year:
Monday - Friday: 9 - 5
Sat, Sun & Holidays: 10 - 5

800-828-4244

www.historichendersonville.org

RECREATION

Nantahala Outdoor Center - Visit Asheville's favorite outfitter now located at The Grove Park Inn. Shop the best brands in outdoor gear, apparel and accessories. Get outside and experience the mountains with family-friendly to high-adventure private guide services. Over 40 years experience in whitewater rafting, kayaking, hiking, fly fishing, mountain biking and canopy tours. Custom tours also available. Open year round. Visit www.noc.com (800) 232-7238.

RomanticAsheville.com Travel Guide - Insider's online guide to Asheville and the Parkway. Waterfalls, hikes, Biltmore, things to do, packages. 650+ pages of free information to plan a trip. www.RomanticAsheville.com

388.8 **US 25 Crossover**. North 5 mi. to Asheville.

393.6 **NC 191 Crossover**. 6 miles north to Asheville. 20 miles south to Hendersonville.

● FLETCHER, NC

Located on US 25, halfway between Asheville and Hendersonville. Exit at Milepost 388.8.

Foam & Fabric - Hwy 25, 6 miles south of Blue Ridge Parkway. Area's largest selection of dress, upholstery, and drapery fabric. Open six days 9:00 to 5:30. (828) 684-0801.

Rutledge Lake RV Park - Exit 40 off I-26. 2 miles from Asheville airport. 170 Rutledge Rd. Go to www.rutledgelake.com e-mail us at rutledgelakepark@bellsouth.net or call (828) 654-7873.

Smiley's Huge Flea Mkt & Yard Sale - Every weekend. Daylight to 2; over 1000 spaces. Free park/admission. 12+ food vendors; 100's of sellers, 1000's of buyers, 1,000,000's of items; antiques to produce. 5360 Hendersonville Rd, Fletcher, NC. (828) 684-3532.



Mt. Pisgah, elev. 5,721 ft., rises in the background.

● HISTORIC HENDERSONVILLE AND FLAT ROCK AREA, NC

Carl Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse, Historic Main Street, Village of Flat Rock, Farmers Curb Market, Historic Depot & Model Railroad, WNC Air Museum, Historic Johnson Farm, Waterfalls, Mineral Museum, three NC State Forests, golf, hiking, fishing, mountain biking, horseback riding, camping, shopping, antiques, summer camps, and historic sites. Near Chimney Rock Park, Lake Lure, and Biltmore Estate. Events: Garden Jubilee and Carl Sandburg Music Festival on Memorial Day Weekend; July 4th Celebration; NC Apple Festival on Labor Day weekend; Summer evenings Music on Main Street, Street Dances. Visit us on the internet at www.historichendersonville.org. Call (800) 828-4244 for FREE 52 page MOUNTAIN SEASONS VACATION PLANNER.

Flat Rock Playhouse - Broadway in the Mountains. Showing musicals, dramas, comedies March - December. Near Asheville. www.flatrockplayhouse.org (866) 732-8008.

Mill House Lodge - Exit 53 I-26. 1-3 BR units, lake with canoes, kitchens, cable, pool, close to Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse. Open year-round. www.millhouselodge.com (800) 736-6073.

Mountain Lodge & Conference Center - Convenient to Hendersonville & Asheville. King & studio suites, fully equipped kitchens. www.mountainlodgeflatrock.com (828) 693-9910.

North Mills River Recreation Area - 30 primitive sites. 5289 N. Mills River Rd., Horse Shoe, NC. Nearby horseback riding, swimming, tubing, & fishing. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

● POLK COUNTY, NC

First Peak of the Blue Ridge. I-26E, Exits 59 & 67. Explore gorges, hiking, birding, waterfalls, kayaking, scenic drives & historic small towns - Saluda, Tryon & Columbus. Enjoy horse shows, wineries, inspired shops/galleries, local restaurants & year-round events. Rejuvenate at historic inns, cozy cabins & hotels. www.firstpeakblueridge.org (800) 440-7848.

405.5 **NC 151**. 15 miles north to Candler.

408.6 **Mount Pisgah**. Campground w/showers, picnic area, trails, (May-November). Mount Pisgah was part of the 100,000-acre estate bought in the late 1800's by George W. Vanderbilt. The first forestry school in America was established on the estate. A large part of the woodland, the first large tract of managed forest in this country, became the nucleus of Pisgah National Forest. For camping reservations www.recreation.gov

Pisgah Inn - "Peak of the Parkway", elevation 5,000 ft., Milepost 408 on Parkway. Open March thru early November. Mountain handicrafts. Delicious food. Featuring Country Ham and Mountain Trout. Delightful overnight accommodations, with panoramic view. P.O. Drawer 749, Waynesville, NC 28786. (828) 235-8228.

412.2 **Wagon Road Gap**. US 276 Crossover. South 18 mi. to Brevard, north 8 mi. to Cruso, 22 mi. to Waynesville.

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

● CANTON, NC

A few miles off the Parkway, exit at MP 412 or 423.2.

Laurel Bank Campground - 350 Campers Lane. Canton NC. 7 miles from MP 412 on pristine Pigeon River. Follow US 276 North. Full hookups & tent sites. Laundry & hot showers. Open May 1st - Oct 15th *www.facebook.com/LaurelBankCampground* (828) 235-8940.

Sunburst Campground - 9 primitive campsites. 8820 Lake Logan Rd., Canton, NC. Enjoy swimming, hiking and biking. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

● TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY, NC

Enchanted forests, exhilarating mountains, adventurous rivers, & more than 250 magical waterfalls. Escape from the world in a cool, quiet wonderland. It's only natural for your family vacation. www.visitwaterfalls.com Call (800) 648-4523.

● BREVARD AND PISGAH FOREST, NC

18 miles south of Parkway, exit Milepost 412.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cascade Lake Recreation Area - 100+ sites w/ hookups, L R Campground Rd., Pisgah Forest NC, M.P. 412. Near DuPont State Forest, 2 lakes, fishing, swimming. *www.cascadelakerecreationarea.com* (828) 877-6625.

Cove Creek Upper and Lower Group Campsites - Near Davidson River and Brevard. Occupancy: 60 people per campsite, spacious. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

Cradle of Forestry Historic Site - Enjoy our trails, hands-on exhibits, movie, programs, gift shop. Cafe serves lunch. Visit cabins, explore Adventure Zone. April-Nov. *www.CradleofForestry.com* (828) 877-3130.

Davidson River Campground - 160 campsites. One Davidson River Circle, Pisgah Forest, NC. M.P. 412. Open year round - enjoy swimming, fishing, & tubing. *www.cfaia.org* (877) 444-6777.

Transylvania County/Brevard, NC

Land of Waterfalls



Grassy Creek Falls, DuPont State Recreational Forest.

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway at Mile Marker 412 and discover pure adventure. Wind your way down US 276 through Pisgah National Forest and enter some of Transylvania County's most iconic landscapes. Along the way, you'll pass the family-friendly Cradle of Forestry, Sliding Rock and Looking Glass Falls. The lush foliage and spectacular waterfalls may recall a storybook fantasy, but the opportunities for adventure and relaxation are very real and include world class mountain biking, hiking, climbing and camping. In all, Transylvania County is home to over 100,000 acres of public lands, encompassed by Pisgah National Forest, DuPont State Recreational Forest and Gorges State Park. Just beyond the forest is the charming historic city of Brevard, voted one of the "Coolest Small Towns in America," by Budget Travel. Here you'll find vibrant local art, culture, outstanding restaurants and the soaring melodies of the Brevard Music Center.

Start your adventure today!

1-800-648-4523

www.visitwaterfalls.com

Hampton Inn Brevard - 13 miles in Pisgah Forest. Free hot breakfast, pool, free WiFi, motorcycle park. www.hamptoninnbrevard.com (828) 883-4800.

Inn at Brevard - Lodging, dining, cocktails. Full country breakfast. 15 antique furnished rooms. Private baths. 315 East Main St., Brevard, NC. www.theinnatbrevard.com (828) 884-2105.

Kuykendall Group Campsite - Pisgah National Forest, near Brevard, NC. Occupancy: 60 people, tent only. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Pisgah Forest Gem Mine - 1/2 mile from the mouth of Pisgah National Forest. www.pisgahforestgemmining.com (828) 367-8330.

Pisgah Visitor Center - 1001 Pisgah Hwy., Pisgah Forest, NC. Information on hiking, biking, camping and more, interactive exhibits, gift shop. (828) 877-3265.

The Sunset Motel - 523 S Broad St. (downtown area). Kitschy remodeled retro motor court, 20 unique rooms. www.thesunsetmotel.com (828) 884-9106.

Trout House Falls Luxury Waterfront Vacation Rentals - "Waterfall Cabin," "Streamside Home," & "Riverfront Fishing Cottage" sleeps 14. www.TroutHouseFalls.com (704) 691-2131.

White Pines North and South Group Campsites - Occupancy: 50 people per campsite. Spacious, beautiful facilities, great for large groups. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

418.8 **Graveyard Fields Overlook**. Loop trail of moderate difficulty, 2.3 miles, to Yellowstone Falls. Comfort Station.

422.4 **Devil's Courthouse Parking Area**. Strenuous 1/2 mile hike to "Courthouse" for 360 degree view. Sensitive habitat area. Please stay on trail.

● LAKE TOXAWAY, NC

15 miles west of Brevard on US 64, exit at Milepost 423.2.

Cabins at Seven Foxes - 5 wildlife-themed, private, fully equipped cabins on 7 acres. Pet friendly. Open year-round. Fireplaces, porches, Jacuzzi. www.sevenfoxes.com (828) 877-6333.

Mountain Falls Luxury Motorcoach Resort - Class A only. In the land of lakes, waterfalls & majestic trails. www.mtn-falls.com (828) 966-9350.

Vacation Rentals - Premier vacation homes at the largest private mountain lake in NC. Kid/pet friendly, hiking, fishing. www.lake-toxaway.com (866) 966-4029.

Highlands, NC



We are Highlands, North Carolina. At 4,118 feet, we offer breathtaking views yet are amazingly down to earth. We are the ideal mountain town, nestled in nature; we are home not only to black bears, but to the most biodiverse collection of flora and fauna in North America. Our public fountains are waterfalls, our façades are rock faces, and our parks are the best of nature itself. From the top of Sunset Rock our town makes a stunning backdrop for the amazing life we live.

Since 1875 the village of Highlands has served the historic role as the consummate host. We have opened our homes and invited guests to experience the healing embrace of our natural surroundings. From New York to New Orleans, Chicago to Savannah, Highlands remains an escape, a retreat, a refuge. From the dining rooms and spas of our finest hotels to the game-filled closets of our mountain cabins, Highlands is a special place where families reconnect and everyone we meet is family.

We are a close-knit community that works together toward high standards. Our residents stitch a beautiful and complex quilt from our diverse experiences, but we all share in one thing: our love and passion for this wonderful place. Our people are our stewards and we look out for one another. We believe in the value of arts and culture, of health and nature. We are a welcoming mountain community, a place to call home with caring people that make it impossible to duplicate.

Find bliss in our well-appointed spas and rest in our historic inns, quaint bed and breakfasts, hotels, and cabins.

Contact INFO

For more information, contact visitor@highlandschamber.org or call toll free 1-866-240-2064

1-866-240-2064

423.3 **Beech Gap**. NC 215 Crossover. North 24 miles to Waynesville, south 17 miles to Rosman.

● HIGHLANDS, NC

Highlands Visitor Center - 269 Oak Street, Highlands, NC MP 450. Highlands, elevation 4118 ft., a mountain respite for over a century. Nestled in the Nantahala National Forest, it is a place to commune with nature or be pampered by the finest of vacation resort amenities. Highlands features world class spa facilities and is well known for its outstanding restaurants, several awarded Wine Spectator status. Accommodations range from quaint, historic bed & breakfasts, cabins and private home rentals to larger inns and hotels. www.highlandschamber.org (828) 526-2112.

Cliffside Lake - 13908 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Two picnic pavilions, fishing pier, & 7 trails. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Fire Mountain Inn & Cabins - Contemporary inn, private Treehouses, cabins with fireplaces, Jacuzzi's. Spectacular views, pet friendly. www.firemt.com (800) 775-4446.

Van Hook Glade Campground - 18 spacious campsites. 14014 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Near beautiful Cliffside Lake. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

431.0 **Haywood-Jackson Overlook**. 1 1/2 mile self-guided loop trail, of moderate difficulty, to summit of Richland Balsam.

431.4 **Richland Balsam Overlook**. Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway motor road. Alt. 6,047.

● HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC

Maggie Valley / Waynesville / Lake Junaluska / Canton / Clyde. Authentic Appalachian, pure and simple. Featuring 46 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, The Wheels Through Time Museum, Cataloochee Ski Area, locally crafted beers, U-Pick farms, local music, and so much more. For more information visit: www.visitncsmokies.com or call (800) 334-9036.

Haywood Cty Hotel & Motel Association - Lodging & dining within minutes of 4 BRP exits, MP 420-450. Quality rooms, cabins, great food. Let Your Adventure Begin! www.maggievalley.travel

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway was designed as a recreational motor road, connecting Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks.

Maggie Valley / Waynesville Lake Junaluska / Canton / Clyde



Authentic Appalachian, Pure & Simple

Welcome to Haywood County, NC, boasting 46 miles of Blue Ridge Parkway and authentic Appalachian history, culture, and nature. Don't miss Cataloochee Valley, where elk were first reintroduced to the Great Smoky Mountains. Motoring enthusiasts will be in hog heaven at America's transportation museum, "Wheels Through Time". Catch Haywood's award-winning bluegrass band, Balsam Range, at one of the annual festivals celebrating the best parts of Appalachian heritage like clogging or our state dog, the Plott Hound. Visit Civil War heritage sites and original pioneer settlements or just take a deep breath and enjoy a cascading waterfall, wooded trail or pristine river. Embark on an agri-tourism adventure at a local farmer's market or visit one of our U-Pick farms. Get active with scenic bicycling, trout fishing or a relaxing round of golf. After strolling our unique shops and galleries, end the day with a farm-to-table dinner and a locally brewed beer.

Contact INFO

facebook.com/VisitNCSmokies
twitter.com/VisitNCSmokies
pinterest.com/VisitNCSmokies
youtube.com/SmokyMountainsNC

800-334-9036
VisitNCsmokies.com

● WAYNESVILLE, NC

27 miles west of Asheville via US 19-23-74, or exit at Milepost 423.2 or 443.1.

FOOD, LODGING & CAMPING

Andon-Reid Inn Bed & Breakfast - 92 Daisy Ave. MP 440. Waynesville's Finest. Breathtaking mountain views, Jacuzzis, fireplaces, Wi-Fi, 5 rooms. www.andonreidinn.com (800) 293-6190.

Best Western-Smoky Mountain Inn - 130 Shiloh Trl, 4 miles from Parkway. Exit 98 off Hwy 23-74. Panoramic mountain view, comp. cont. breakfast. Ref/Mwave in rooms. Free HSIA. www.bwsmokymountaininn.com (800) 218-2121.

Creekwood Farm RV Park - 4696 Jonathan Creek Rd. 10 miles from Parkway MP 443. Great RV park beside Jonathan Creek. www.creekwoodfarmrv.com (800) 862-8110.

The Waynesville Inn Golf Resort & Spa - MP 445, 5 min. from Pkwy - Beautiful rooms, 27 holes of golf, restaurants, & spa services. www.thewaynesvilleinn.com (800) 627-6250.

443.1 **Balsam Gap**. US 74-23 Crossover. East 7 mi. to Waynesville, west 12 mi. to Sylva.



Bring plenty of water if you plan to hike!

● BALSAM, NC

Just off Parkway on US 23-74, exit at MP 443.1.

Balsam Mountain Inn - Turn right from Parkway exit; follow signs to Balsam and its Inn, just as it was 100 years ago! (only a 1990 renovation provided each room a private bath). Chosen by the National Geographic and the Appalachian Regional Commission "as representative of the Region's rich, diverse and, in many cases undiscovered treasures." Stay a night, a week, or just come and look; Hall gallery presents local artist and artisans' works. www.BalsamMountainInn.net (855) 456-9498.

Moonshine Creek Campground - Cool & secluded, back to nature camping on beautiful rambling creek. FHU sites & cabins, campfires & hot showers. Off US 74/23 turn at Balsam Hwy sign. www.moonshinecreekcampground.com (828) 586-6666.

Jackson County, NC



Get away. And Play on. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina, Jackson County is your one-stop, see-it-all destination. It's a real natural beauty. Not only can you hike or bike up some of the Southeast's most beautiful mountain trails, you can canoe, kayak or fish in its valleys. To complement the breathtaking landscapes, the mountain towns of Jackson County are also home to historic resorts, culturally inspired restaurants, and top-notch breweries. There is always something happening here, as evidenced by the county's year-round events calendar that features activities from craft festivals to Christmas parades. Any time is a good time to visit; seasonal changes only mean new opportunities – from golf greens in the summer to ski slopes in the winter. With brilliant views, cozy towns, and the best nature has to offer, there's nothing quite like a getaway in Jackson County, the North Carolina mountain towns of Chashiers, Cherokee, Dillsboro and Sylva.

Located 30 miles SW of Asheville, I-40 Exit 27 or Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost Exit 443.1.

Contact INFO

Jackson County
Tourism Development Authority
773 West Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779

800-962-1911
www.mountainloversnc.com



Milepost 451

WATERROCK KNOB

You've entered "high country" at the Parkway's southern end, and Waterrock Knob is one of the best examples of the rugged nature of the area. The Plott Balsam and Great Balsam ranges meet at Waterrock, rising in elevation to almost 6,400 feet. It is the second highest of all Parkway peaks and one of the highest in the eastern United States.

Waterrock Knob is known for its beautiful long range views of several major mountain chains in the Appalachians, including the Great Smoky Mountains, Pisgah Ridge, Nantahala, Cowee, and the Blue Ridge Ranges. With a nearly 360 degree vantage point, it is uniquely suited for viewing sunrises and sunsets, especially during the equinoxes in March and September.

The name Waterrock Knob comes from a spring located on the hillside at a place called "camp rock". Generations of explorers, hunters, and loggers have rested here and enjoyed the cool waters.

A small visitor center with interpretive displays introduces visitors to the area's rugged terrain and tremendous scenic qualities. Stories of black bear and the endangered fir trees are told as well.

The .6 mile Waterrock Knob Trail takes you up to the summit, yielding even more spectacular views from the higher elevation.

DID YOU KNOW?

The highest point on the Parkway is 6,053 feet, or 1,845 meters, above sea level on Richland Balsam Mountain at MP 431.

● SYLVA & DILLSBORO, NC

14 miles west on US 23-74, exit at Milepost 443.1.

Best Western Plus River Escape Inn & Suites - US 74 Exit 81. Spacious rooms overlooking Tuckasegee River available. Wi-Fi, full breakfast, indoor pool, astounding views. www.bwriverescape.com (828) 586-6060.

Dogwood Crafters - Craft Coop, a showcase of handmade arts and crafts since 1976. 90 Webster St. Dillsboro, NC. Open 10-6 daily. www.dogwoodcrafters.com (828) 586-2248.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Dillsboro, 26 Rufus Robinson Rd, Sylva 28779. US 23/74 exit 81. All non-smoking rooms, renovated 2012. Free hot breakfast bar, Wi-Fi, heated indoor pool & spa. www.hiexpress.com/esdillsboronc (828) 631-1111.

● JACKSON COUNTY, NC

Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway is here! Free map to 10 trails & 19 waterfalls. 1400+ rooms, restaurants, and walk-about towns. Welcome Center, Main St., Sylva. www.mountainlovers.com (800) 962-1911.

Smoky Mountain Host of NC - ***The region boasts 300+ travel attractions & businesses and national treasurers: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherohala Skyway, and Nantahala & Pisgah National Forests. www.visitsmokies.org or (800) 432-4678.***

451.2 **Waterrock Knob Parking Overlook.** Visitor Information Center, Comfort Station. 4-State view including fine panorama of the Great Smoky Mountains. Trail, with pedestrian overlooks, to the Knob.



Keep your eyes open for wildlife.



Motorcycle touring is a popular way to experience the Parkway.

455.7 **Soco Gap, US 19 Crossover**. 12 miles west to Cherokee, 5 miles east to Maggie Valley.

● MAGGIE VALLEY, NC

US 19, Eastern entrance to the Great Smokies, One small valley, mountains of fun! Maggie Valley Visitors Bureau, PO Box 279, Maggie Valley, 28751. www.maggievalley.org (800) Maggie1 or (828) 926-1686.

ATTRACTIONS

Wheels Through Time Museum - 62 Vintage Ln. Thurs.-Mon. 9am-5pm. 5 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Over 300 rare and historic machines back to 1903. *www.WheelsThroughTime.com* (828) 926-6266.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Best Western Mountainbrook Inn - Hwy 19 - 4 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view. 15 miles from casino, outdoor pool & hot tub. Half mile from Ghost Town Amusement Park. New rooms. Reservation (800) 213-1914.

Boyd Mountain Log Cabins - 7 Authentic cabins with 1-4 bedrooms, secluded on 130 acres near Maggie Valley, full kitchens, central heat/AC, fireplaces, Cable TV & WiFi. Offering fishing, hiking, fire pits, volleyball and a Choose N Cut Christmas Tree Farm on premises. Open all year. *www.boydmountain.com* (828) 926-1575.

Cataloochee Ranch - 5000′ atop the Great Smokies. Direct entrance into Park. Rustic luxury in 2 lodges & 11 private cabins. Fireplaces, ranch-style meals, horses, tennis, fishing, hiking. Skiing in winter. (828) 926-1401 or (800) 868-1401.

Country Cabins - 5 mi off PKWY in Maggie Valley with authentic log cabins. Peaceful mountain retreat. Fireplaces, porches, hot-tubs. Open all year. Pet Friendly. *www.countrycabinsmv.com* (828) 926-0612 or (888) 222-4611.

Jonathan Creek Inn and Villas - Picturesque creekside setting with gazebo and charcoal grill. Room types are Creekside, Fireplace, Hot Tub, and Creekside Rooms with Screened-in Porches. Enjoy use of the creekside hot tub and indoor heated pool. All villa rentals include fireplaces and private outdoor hot tubs. *www.jonathancreekinn.com* (800) 577-7812.

Maggie Valley Area Lodging - ***Affordable motel/hotel rooms, cabins, cottages, B&BS, and vacation rentals. You'll find your perfect home away from home while touring our awe inspiring mountains.*** **www.visitmaggie.com**

Mountain Joy Cottages - 3 miles off Pkwy. 1-4 bedroom cabins. Fireplaces, kitchens, porches, indoor pool, Jacuzzi cottages. Open all year. Pet friendly. Maggie's old homestead. *www.mountainjoycottages.com* (828) 926-1257.

Ramada Limited - Hwy 19, 3 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view-creekside rooms. 1/2 mile from Ghost Town. New Rooms, Dlx Breakfast, Reservation (828) 926-7800.

Real Estate Adventures - Begin or end your adventure on the Blue Ridge Parkway in one of our vacation rentals. Open year-round. *www.realestateadventures.com* (800) 819-9466.

Mountaineer Rest. & Fireside Cottages - Open all year. Serving breakfast, lunch & dinner. Cozy cabins sleep 10, fantastic view, kitchen, fireplace, cable TV, front porch, Jacuzzi & stream. Located 1.4 mi from Parkway, close to attractions & Cherokee. *www.firesidecottages.com* (828) 926-1730.

Rock-n-Robins & Seasoned Pages & Tunes - Maggie Valley's largest ice cream shop and largest used book & record shop. Located in Market Square at 3445 Soco Rd. Maggie Valley.

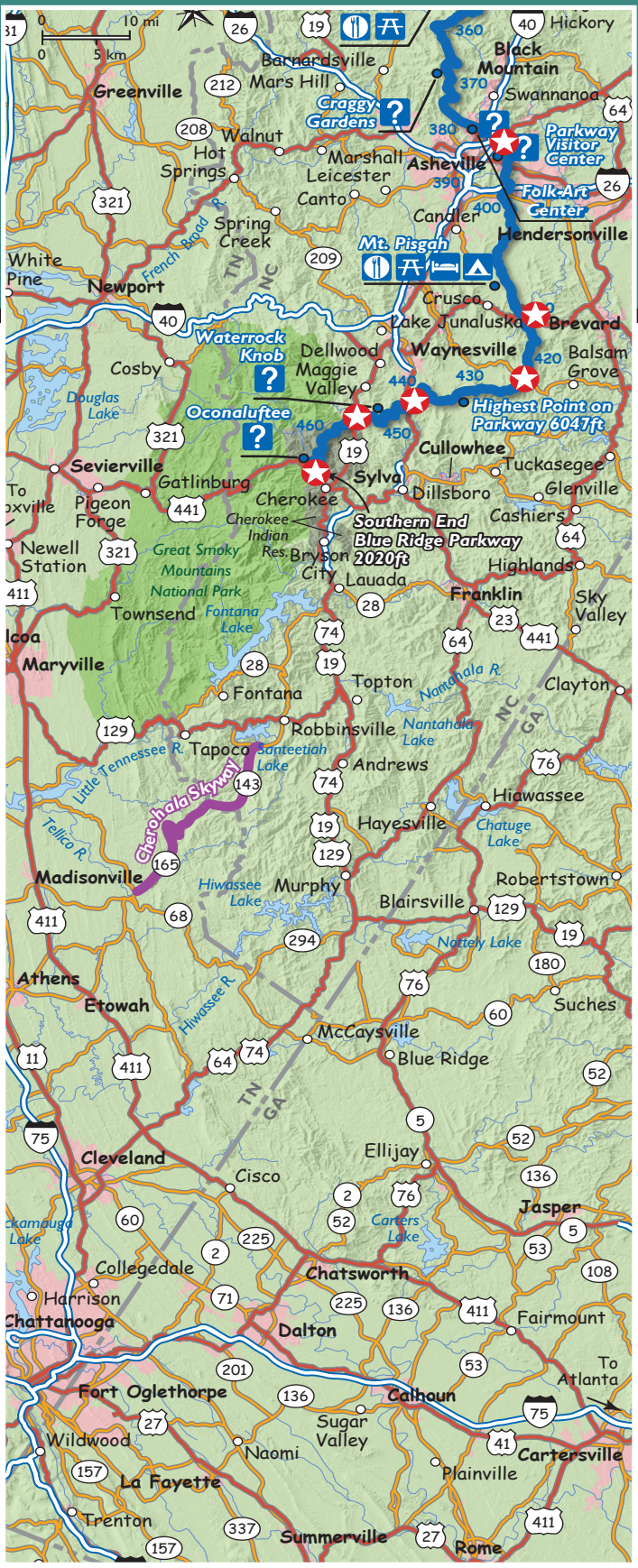
458.2 **Heintooga Ridge Rd**. Spur to Mile High Overlook. 12 miles to Great Smoky Mtns. National Park Campground.

461.9 **Big Witch Overlook**

469.1 **Junction Parkway and US 441**. 2 miles south to Cherokee, 29 miles north to Gatlinburg. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is located equally in North Carolina and Tennessee. The Park's 507,168 acres may be viewed from paved roads and many wilderness trails. Information bulletin board. Oconaluftee Visitor Center near Parkway & US 441.

Great Smokies Region:

Near Great Smoky Mountains National Park & Tennessee



MAP KEY: Refer to page 23 for explanation of symbols

CHEROKEE, NC

At the southern entrance/exit to Parkway. Home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Museums, cultural and family attractions, motels, campgrounds, restaurants, shops, famous outdoor drama "Unto These Hills" and Harrah's Cherokee Casino. Complete information at downtown Visitor Center, PO Box 460, Cherokee, NC 28719. Web Page: www.cherokee-nc.com Toll-free (800) 438-1601.

ATTRACTIONS

Oconaluftee Indian Village - Poses the question, "Is it actually Cherokee history if it's still happening?" Today you can transport back to an 18th century village full of authentic stickball demonstrations, dance, staged war reenactments—you name it. If it happened then, it's happening now. Season opens May 1st, and tickets and times are available at www.CherokeeLivingHistory.com or (866) 554-4557.

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc. - Is like a rare archeological dig, only with shopping and sales. If you're seeking authentic Cherokee weaponry, the decorative beauty of basketry and beadwork, the skill of finger weaving, or sublime wood and stone carving, you've found the largest home for it east of the Mississippi. Visit www.QuallaArts.com or phone (828) 497-3103.



Regional campgrounds offer many amenities for families.

Santa's Land - Family fun with a Christmas theme. Rides, zoo, entertainment, Santa, gift shops, food, playgrounds, old-time crafts. www.santaslandnc.com (828) 497-9191.

"Unto These Hills." - Where Cherokee history comes alive, and drama is part of your adventure's DNA. This outdoor drama is the Cherokee story, as portrayed by the Cherokee themselves nightly from June 1–August 16, except Sundays. Performed in the newly renovated Mountainside Theatre. Tickets and reservations are available at www.CherokeeDrama.com or (866) 554-4557.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Baymont Inn Cherokee - 1455 Aquoni Rd near the southern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway & the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. (828) 497-2102.

Chestnut Tree Inn - 154 rooms with free hot breakfast. Great restaurant, indoor/outdoor pools, guest laundry, free Wi-Fi. www.chestnuttreeinncherokee.com (828) 497-9181.

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 100 rooms & suites across from Harrah's Casino on US 19 north. Continental breakfast, indoor pool, meeting space. www.hgmhotels.com (828) 497-0400.

Magnuson's Great Smokies Inn - 151 rooms. 1636 Acquoni Road. Located 1/2 mile from the Blue Ridge Pkwy and the Great Smoky Mtns National Park. (828) 497-2020.

Mountaineer Motel - "Best Lil' Motel in Cherokee!" 8 very clean rooms. All w/ m/w & ref., sat. TV, pool. Friendly & quiet. Low rates. Native owners. US 441S (828) 497-2453.

Yogi™ in the Smokies - 317 Galamore Bridge Road, Enjoy being a kid with your kids. Cabins, RV, and tent sites, pool, fun activities, Yogi hayrides. We are right on the Raven Fork River which is stocked with trout regularly by the Cherokee Tribe! M/C, Visa. (828) 497-9151.

● FRANKLIN & MACON CO., NC

US 23, 441, 64, NC 28. Gem and ruby mines. Scenic waterfalls. For more information on accommodations and attractions, please write or call the Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce, 425 Porter Street, Franklin, NC 28734. (828) 524-3161 (800) 336-7829.

Smoky Mountain Center for the Performing Arts - 1028 Georgia Rd. Shows include concerts, plays & much more. www.greatmountainmusic.com (828) 524-1598.

● SWAIN COUNTY, NC

Have a big vacation in a small town! Enjoy pristine mountain beauty, whitewater rafting, Fontana Lake, trout fishing, horseback riding, hiking, scenic train ride, shopping or just relaxing. Rich Cherokee and Southern Appalachian history. Lodging includes inns, B&Bs, cabins, resorts, hotels, motels and campgrounds. Call (800) 867-9246 or visit www.GreatSmokies.com.

Cherokee, NC

Close by. Thousands of years ago.



How will Cherokee affect you?

With just one visit to Cherokee, NC, you'll start seeing things a little differently. In the most delightful of ways. Here, you'll discover history isn't something relegated to musty old textbooks—it's alive and thrilling, as demonstrated in Oconaluftee Indian Village and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. And you'll find yourself more keenly aware of how nature inspires artisans and craftspeople, once you try a fun hike to nearby Mingo or Soco Falls and afterwards take in Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc. Maybe you'll stop your drive long enough to see our neighboring elk herd, and some part of you will connect the dots to a different type of outdoor drama, "Unto These Hills." The point is, it's almost impossible not to be struck by centuries of Cherokee history and stories even while you're having a great time today adventuring in Cherokee, NC.

Contact INFO

Cherokee Welcome Center
498 Tsali Blvd.
Cherokee, NC 28719
Email: travel@nc-cherokee.com

800-438-1601
VisitCherokeeNC.com

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL PARK



Ridge upon ridge of endless forest straddling the border between North Carolina and Tennessee, Great Smoky Mountains National Park is one of the largest protected areas in the Eastern United States and attracts over nine million visitors each year. Once a part of the Cherokee homeland, the Smokies today are a hiker's paradise with over 800 miles of trails.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park, located in the states of North Carolina and Tennessee, encompasses 815 square miles of which 95 percent are forested. World renowned for the diversity of its plant and animal resources, the beauty of its ancient mountains, the quality of its remnants of southern Appalachian mountain culture, and the depth and integrity of the wilderness sanctuary within its boundaries, it is one of the largest protected areas in the East. The park is open year-round. Visitor centers at Sugarlands, Oconaluftee, and Cades Cove are open all year, except Christmas Day. There is no entrance fee due to restrictions in deeds that transferred state highways to the Park.

What to See and Do - Much of what the Smokies offers, including wildflowers, flowering trees, colorful fall foliage, mountain vistas, and historic buildings can be seen from your car. There are abundant opportunities for hiking, bicycling, and camping in the Park.

Cable Mill in Cades Cove - Open from March 20 - November 29: 9:00-5:00. Located inside the park near the mid-point of the 11-mile, one-way Cades Cove Loop Rd. Exhibits - Water-powered grist mill.

Mingus Mill - Open From April 10 through November 29: 9:00-5:00. Located inside the park, 2 miles north of Cherokee, NC, on US 441. Exhibits - Turbine-powered grist mill.

Camping - Reservations can be made at www.recreation.gov or (877) 444-6777.

Horse Camps - Open seasonally April - October. The reservations for both the horse camps and front country camping are made at www.recreation.gov or (877) 444-6777.

VISITOR CENTERS

(Open all year, with varying seasonal hours)

Cades Cove Visitor Center - *Located inside the park near the mid-point of the 11-mile, one-way Cades Cove Loop Road.*

Oconaluftee Visitor Center - *Located inside the park, 2 miles north of Cherokee, NC, on US 441.*

Sugarlands Visitor Center - *Located inside the park, 2 miles south of Gatlinburg on US 441.*

Gatlinburg Welcome Center - *Located in Gatlinburg on US 441 south.*

Gatlinburg Welcome Center at the Aquarium - *Located at Ripleys Aquarium of the Smokies*

Sevierville Visitor Center - *Located on TN 66, 1 mile south of I-40. Exit 407.*

Towsend Visitor Center - *Located in Townsend, Tennessee, on US 321.*

Clingmans Dome Visitor Contact Station - *Located near the parking area. Open seasonally April through November.*

For more information contact:
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738
(865) 436-1200 www.nps.gov/grsm
Visitor Information Recorded Message - (865) 436-1200

Elevations in the park range from 800 feet to 6,643 feet and topography affects local weather. Temperatures are 10 to 20 degrees cooler on the mountaintops.

Spring *brings unpredictable weather, particularly in higher elevations. Snow may fall in March, but by May daytime highs often reach the 80s. Nighttime temperatures vary from below freezing in March to the 50s in May. Rainfall is common during the season.*

Summer *is hot and humid, but more pleasant in higher elevations. July and August highs reach the 80s and 90s. Evening lows are in the 60s and 70s. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are common.*

Fall *has warm days and cool nights and is the driest period. Frosts occur starting in late September. Daytime highs are in the 70s and 80s during September, falling to the 50s and 60s in early November. By November, nighttime lows are usually near freezing and snow is possible.*

Winter *is generally moderate, but extreme conditions can occur. It is not unusual to have warm temperatures in the low elevations and snow in the higher areas. Half the days in the winter have high temperatures of 50 degrees or more. Nighttime lows are normally at or below freezing, but can drop to -20°F at high elevation. In the lowlands, snows of 1" or more occur 1-5 times a year.*

● BRYSON CITY, NC

10 miles west of Cherokee on US 19-74, exit at Milepost 469.1.

ATTRACTIONS

Great Smoky Mountains Railroad - 15 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway MP 469.1. Round-trip scenic excursions take you from historic depot through the beautiful countryside. Variety of train excursions & special event trains. Dine in First Class Cars or take it all in while riding in an open air gondola! Step on board for your next rail adventure! Seasonal schedule April-December. Information & reservations www.gsmr.com or (800) 872-4681.



Great Smoky Mountains Railroad

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Fryemont Inn - 245 Fryemont St., Bryson City, NC. National Register of Historic Places. All rates include dinner & breakfast. Open mid-April to Thanksgiving. From $125/nt for 2. (800) 845-4879.

Hidden Creek Cabins - Great Smoky Mountains, creekside, mountain views, hot tubs, fireplaces, 27 unique cabins, rates starting at $99 per night. www.hiddencreekcabins.com

Riverbend Lodging - Relax by the river! Very clean, 11 motel units, small cedar cabin, cottage. 470 Hwy 19 S., Bryson City. www.riverbendlodging.com (877) 272-3125.

Murphy KOA - 2 miles east of Murphy, NC on Hwy. 74. FHU RV sites, deluxe cabins, tent sites. www.peacevalleycampground.com (800) 562-9382.

Sleep Inn - US-74 Exit 67. Near Great Smoky Mountains Railroad and Nantahala Whitewater Rafting. Free cont. breakfast and hi speed wireless internet. Seasonal outdoor pool. www.sleepinnbrysoncitync.com (866) 939-0998.

Bryson City, NC | Swain County



If you have high expectations for your next getaway, look no further than Bryson City - a small mountain town bordered by the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Fontana Lake, and the Tuckasegee and Oconaluftee rivers.

Swain County has the highest peaks and some of the best rushing water in the Smokies, including Deep Creek's trio of waterfalls just outside Bryson City. Take a hike, a whitewater tube ride, fish for trout, have a picnic and splash in an old-fashioned "swimming hole."

From Nantahala River whitewater rafting, to world-class mountain biking, zip-lines, and scenic train rides and drives along "The Dragon," Bryson City offers something for everyone.

A great vacation destination that includes a scenic drive on The Parkway, "America's Favorite Drive".

After an active day, enjoy some downtime downtown with a free concert, eclectic dining or a hometown brew. Stroll through the shops, galleries, and studios of local artisans. Unwind at one of our comfortable B&Bs, cabins, motels or resorts. And get ready for another day of fun in the Smokies.

Contact INFO

Visitor Center in the Historic Courthouse
2 Everett Street
chamber@greatsmokies.com

800-867-9246
GreatSmokies.com

FONTANA, NC

In the heart of the Smokies between Asheville & Knoxville.

Fontana Village Resort - Over 400 untouched acres offers the Lodge, 1-4 bedroom cabins, camping, meeting & wedding facilities, onsite catering lazy river & pools, disc golf, hiking, biking, restaurants, lounges. Fontana Marina offers watercraft rentals, fishing guides, GSMP shuttles, scenic lake cruises & more. www.FontanaVillage.com (800) 849-2258.

CHEROHALA SKYWAY

National Scenic Byway







The Cherohala Skyway was opened and dedicated in 1996. The road has been designated a National Scenic Byway. The road cost more than 100 million dollars to construct. The Cherohala Skyway crosses through the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee and the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina. The name "Cherohala" comes from the names of the two National Forests: "Chero" from the Cherokee and "hala" from the Nantahala. The Cherohala Skyway is located in southeast Tennessee and southwest North Carolina. The Skyway connects Tellico Plains, Tennessee, with Robbinsville, North Carolina, and is about 40+ miles long. The Cherohala Skyway is a wide, paved 2-lane road maintained by the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The elevations range from 900 feet above sea level at the Tellico River in Tennessee to over 5400 feet above sea level at the Tennessee-North Carolina state line at Haw Knob.

The Cherohala 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. Picnic tables and spotless restrooms are available. A friendly staff will welcome you with important Skyway and area information!

For more information visit: www.Cherohala.org
Toll Free: (800) 245-5428 or (423) 253-8010



A state fishing license is required for fishing in Parkway waters.

GRAHAM COUNTY, NC

Located in Robbinsville. Smoky Mtn natural beauty still unspoiled by crowds, Tail of the Dragon, Joyce Kilmer, Cheoah River & 4 lakes www.GrahamCountyTravel.com (828) 479-3790.

GATLINBURG, TN

Amid the splendor of the Smoky Mountains, Gatlinburg embodies the simple goodness of small town life to millions of visitors yearly. Come see why; you've never been closer. (800) 766-5396. www.gatlinburg.com

ATTRACTIONS

Christ in the Smokies - Experience the greatest story ever told, realistic life-size scenes from the life of Christ. Rare gems & coins plus the awe-inspiring face of Christ sculpture. www.christinthesmokies.com (865) 436-5155.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway follows the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are a part of the Appalachian Mountain chain. These mountains span from Georgia to Pennsylvania, containing the highest mountains in the eastern United States.



Historic sites and visitor centers are great places to learn about natural and cultural history.

Ober Gatlinburg - Ride the 120 passenger Aerial Tramway to indoor ice skating, Alpine Slide, scenic chairlift, black bear habitat, otters, water rides, shops & more! www.obergatlinburg.com (865) 436-5423.

Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies - America's #1 aquarium! Big sharks, penguins & thousands of exotic sea creatures. www.ripleysaquariumofthesmokies.com (888) 240-1358.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Brookside Resort - Streamside rooms, pillow top beds, whirlpool tubs, pool with waterfall. Near Aquarium. (800) 251-9597. www.brooksideresort.com or e-mail: info@brooksideresort.com.

Comfort Inn - On the river between #1 & #2 traffic lights on the Parkway. 4 blocks before Ripley's Aquarium. All rooms have private balconies on river. Free continental breakfast. (865) 436-5047.

Greystone Inn at the Aquarium - Located in downtown Gatlinburg. Private balconies over the river. Continental Breakfast. www.greystonelodgetn.com (800) 451-9202.

Mountain Laurel Chalets - 140 chalets in Gatlinburg next to GSMNP. 1-12 bedrooms, hot tubs, pool tables, not on top of your neighbor. Swimming privileges in season. Website: www.mtnlaurelchalets.com

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway contains three mountain ranges, with 16 peaks above 5,000 feet, including Mount Mitchell, the tallest peak east of the Mississippi at 6,683 feet.

Graham County, NC

Where Nature and Adventure Meet



Remote • Mountains • Lakes • Twisties – 24/7/365

With a natural beauty unspoiled by crowds, the pristine mountains and lakes of Western North Carolina's Graham County are a rare find in today's busy world. Chosen by readers of Blue Ridge Outdoors as one of the top areas for outdoor enthusiasts, the adventures are numerous.

Drive or bike the scenic mountain highways, hike amidst 400 year old trees at Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, go whitewater rafting on the Cheoah River, explore the 480 foot-tall Fontana Dam or bike our newest Santeetlah Lake Trails. With four beautiful lakes, try your hand at fishing, kayaking, boating, or canoeing.

Family-friendly and a popular destination for couples, Graham County, NC is also ideal for reunions, groups, car & motorcycle clubs, and weddings. Discover specialty, themed, historic, budget & luxury accommodations for your outdoor adventure vacation.

Graham County is home to the quaint mountain towns of Robbinsville, Stecoah, Lake Santeetlah, and Fontana Dam, with a selection of cabins, lodges, resorts and inns from rustic to luxury to downright comfy. Choose mountain, river, or lake views, or just take in the sights of the lush forests and Appalachian wilderness with a getaway that can be as secluded or adventurous as you want it to be.

Contact INFO

Graham County Travel & Tourism Authority
12 N. Main St.
Robbinsville, NC 28771

Showcasing the towns of Fontana Dam, Lake Santeetlah, Robbinsville & Stecoah Valley

800-470-3790

www.GrahamCountyTravel.com

DID YOU KNOW?

How Geography Defines Us

Modern residents may not give much thought to the geography of a region, except when it comes to going up or down the mountains. Historically, however, Native Americans and European settlers were much more aware of the geographical features of the landscape that determined settlement patterns and sometimes survival. Gaps in the mountains, fertile bottomlands along rivers, well-protected coves and hollows, the rugged and sometimes inaccessible east-facing slope of the Blue Ridge, all of these became factors that determined where towns developed and roads were planned.

Mountain Rentals of Gatlinburg - More room, more fun & experiences you remember. Guest rewards, concierge, vacation deals. www.MountainChalets.com (877) 701-4278.

Ski Mountain Chalet & Condo Rentals - 1-12 bedrooms, fully furnished, tls, linens, kitchens, fireplaces. Some units have hot tubs, saunas, whirlpools & pool tables. All have access to recreational areas with tennis courts & pools in season. 416 Ski Mtn. Rd., Gatlinburg, TN 37738. www.skimtnchalets.com (865) 436-7846 or (800) 824-4077.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

G. Webb Gallery/The Tennis Corner - Watercolours & prints that tell the story of the Blue Ridge Mtns. Tennis equipment & supplies. Open year round. www.gwebbgallery.com (865) 436-3639.

● PIGEON FORGE, TN

Variety of music, shopping, attractions, restaurants, and accommodations, plus Dollywood and the Great Smoky Mountains. Website: www.mypigeonforge.com
Call 1-800-251-9100.

Christmas Place - at Bell Tower Square - 2470 Parkway, Pigeon Forge, TN. The South's largest Christmas village. www.christmasplace.com (800) 445-3396.

Sevierville, TN



Family Fun in Dolly's Hometown Sevierville, TN

From high flying fun to famous outlet shopping and even world class events, Dolly's hometown, Sevierville, Tennessee, is a fun place to vacation year-round! Mark a few things off your bucket list with a zip line adventure in the Smoky Mountains, a trip across America's longest swinging bridge or a helicopter tour of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Then mark off your shopping list, with a visit to Sevierville's famous high-end outlet mall, Tanger Outlets Sevierville, or megastore and museum, Smoky Mountain Knife Works. While in Sevierville, visit one of the world's best theme parks, Dollywood, for award-winning rides, shows, and traditional crafts. Then visit us for Sevierville's 11th Annual Bloomin' BBQ & Bluegrass festival (May 15 & 16, 2015), with 50 of the nation's top barbecue cook teams and free concerts from the biggest names in Bluegrass music!

Mark a few things off your bucket list with a zip line adventure in the Smoky Mountains, a trip across America's longest swinging bridge or a helicopter tour of the national park.

Learn more about our brand new, competitively priced lodging options ranging from cabins to water park resorts, plus plenty of great travel deals. Request your free vacation planner online at VisitSevierville.com or call 1-888-738-4378.

Contact INFO

Sevierville Convention & Visitors Bureau
110 Gary Wade Blvd
Sevierville, TN 37862

888-738-4378
VisitSevierville.com



Please keep dogs on leashes at all overlooks and on trails.

Clarion Inn - Centrally located in the heart of everything in Walden's Landing. Explore unique shops, try one of four restaurants or see a movie in the new theater. (865) 868-5300.

● TOWNSEND, TN

25 mi. west of Gatlinburg via Rt. 321.

Tuckaleechee Caverns - 25 miles west of Gatlinburg on US Hwy 321 & Tenn. Hwy 73. One of the greatest natural attractions of the Great Smokies. Open (March 15-Nov. 15) 9am-5pm (March & Nov. 10am-5pm). Rated a Diamond attraction by AAA. (865) 448-2274.

● MARYVILLE, TN

West of Gatlinburg via Rt. 321, south of Knoxville.

Smoky Mountain Harley-Davidson - Rider's Destination. Full service dealership - Open 7 days a week. Events/concert info. www.SMH-D.com (865) 977-1669.



Nature walks are a great way to experience the outdoors.

● SWEETWATER, TN

North of Chattanooga on I-75, Exit 60.

Lost Sea - U.S. Registered Natural Landmark. Cavern tour and glass-bottom boat ride. Exit I-75 at Sweetwater. Open daily 9 a.m. Adults $17.95, Children 5-12 $7.95, 4 & under Free. (423) 337-6616.

● SEVIERVILLE, TN

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

For more information you may contact these state tourism offices

north carolina

visitnc.com 1-800-VISIT NC

North Carolina Travel & Tourism
15000 Weston Parkway, Cary, NC 27513
800-VISITNC
www.visitnc.com

Virginia is for Lovers™

Virginia Tourism Corporation
901 E Byrd Street • Richmond, VA 23219
800-VISITVA
www.virginia.org

tennessee™ we're playing your song
tnvacation.com

Tennessee Travel & Tourism
320 6th Avenue #500 • Nashville, TN 37243-7000
800-GO2-TENN
www.tnvacation.com

Some nearby National Park Service sites you might also want to visit



Over Mountain Historic Victory Trail

On to Victory and Independence!

The Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail (OVNHT) follows the Revolutionary War route of Patriot militia men from Virginia, today's eastern Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia to the battle of Kings Mountain, S.C., site of the Kings Mountain National Military Park. The OVNHT is part of the National Trails System. While there are hiking segments, the primary public access is by car over the commemorative motor route. The only trail marked portion is access from Old Hwy. 221/ Linville Mountain Road.

Overmountain Victory NHT
2635 Park Road • Blacksburg, SC 29702
(864) 936-3477 www.nps.gov/ovvi



Carl Sandburg Home – Connemara

A Poet of the People

A Poet of the People
Carl Sandburg, nationally renowned poet, biographer, folksinger and lecturer provided broad and enduring 20th century insight into the circumstances, worth and spirit of the American people. Having already achieved literary fame before moving in 1945, Sandburg continued to write and lecture, publishing more than one-third of his works during his 22 years at Connemara. Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site offers keen insight into the memory and the many literary contributions of Carl Sandburg. Connemara, the 262-acre farm is available for visitors to explore and learn of this great American writer. The site consists of more than five miles of trails, historic buildings, and a small representative goat herd. Explore Sandburg's legacy and Experience Your America!

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
81 Carl Sandburg Lane (Mail address)
1800 Little River Rd. • Flat Rock, NC 28731
(828) 693-4178 www.nps.gov/carl



Cedar Creek & Belle Grove

From Backcountry to Breadbasket to Battlefield -- and Beyond

The Shenandoah Valley invites you to learn about its rich heritage, from Native Americans who first shaped the land, to pioneers of this frontier; this fertile area became one of the most important wheat producing regions of the entire South. The Valley also witnessed some of the most dramatic events of the Civil War, including the Battle of Cedar Creek, a decisive October 19, 1864 Union victory.

Cedar Creek & Belle Grove NHP
7712 Main Street • Middletown, Virginia 22645
(540) 869-3051 www.nps.gov/cebe



Appomattox Court House

Beginning Peace and Reunion

On Palm Sunday (April 9), 1865, Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House, Virginia signaled the end of the Southern States attempt to create a separate nation. It set the stage for the emergence of an expanded and more powerful Federal government. In a sense the struggle over how much power the central government would hold had finally been settled.

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Hwy. 24, P.O. Box 218 • Appomattox, VA 24522
(434) 352-8987 x 226 www.nps.gov/apco

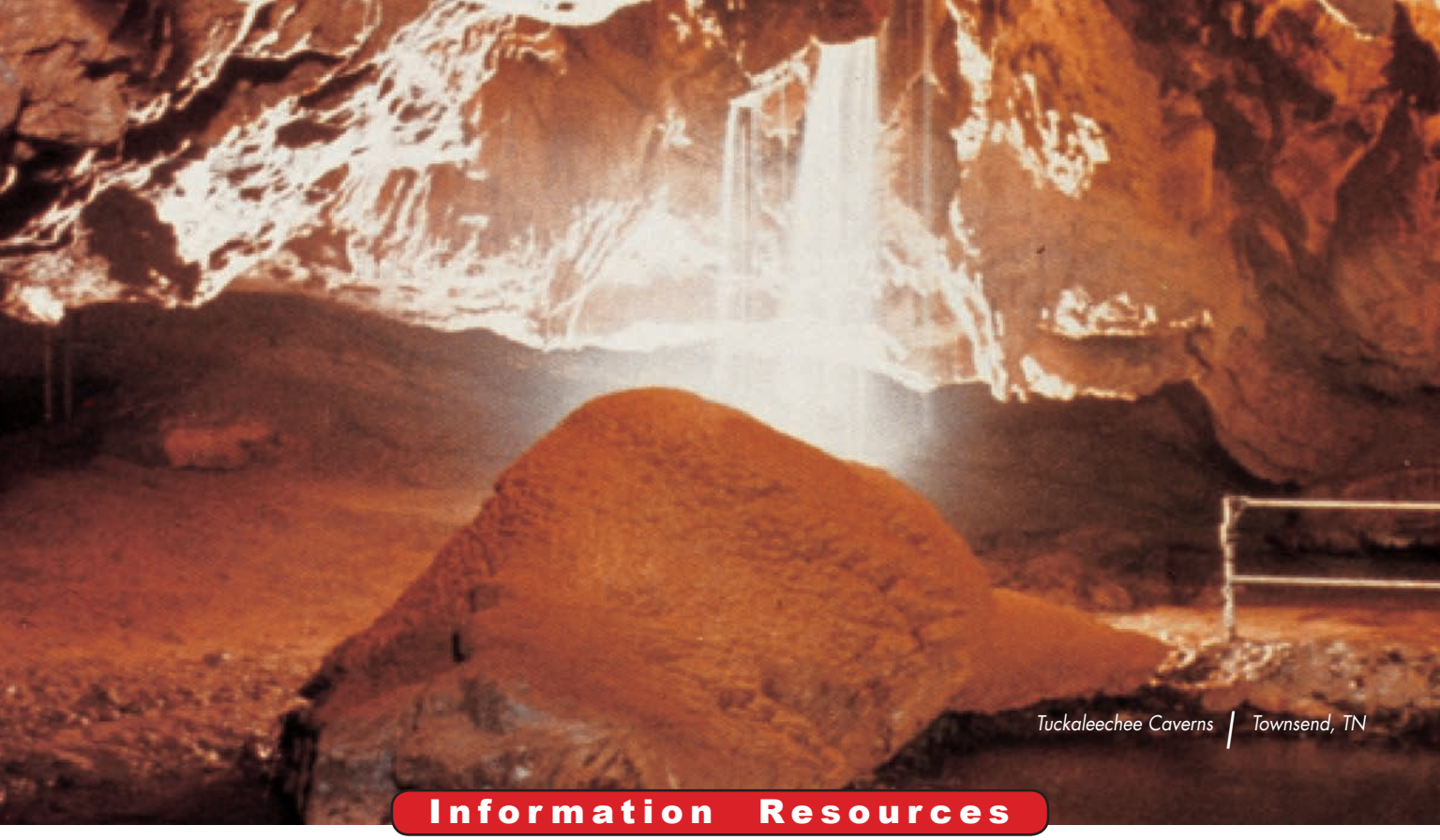


Cumberland Gap

A Mountain Gateway

At Cumberland Gap, the first great gateway to the west, follow the buffalo, the Native American, the longhunter, the pioneer... all traveled this route through the mountains into the wilderness of Kentucky. Modern day explorers and travelers stand in awe at this great gateway and the many miles of trails and scenic features found in the park.

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park
91 Bartlett Park Rd • Middlesboro, KY 40965
(606)248-2817 www.nps.gov/cuga



Tuckaleechee Caverns | Townsend, TN

Information Resources

Blue Ridge Country
Award winning magazine covering history, attractions & outdoor recreation. New! Digital Edition. Go to ***www.blueridgecountry.com*** to subscribe and use Promo Code SPBRPA.

Blue Ridge Parkway Golf Trail
America's newest golf trail. Included in all golf packages is lodging at your choice of upscale log homes, golf villas, or luxury hotels along with a selection of truly spectacular championship mountain golf courses. When you return home, you can tell your friends you played golf "up in the clouds." ***www.brpgolftrail.com*** (866) 650-6644.

BRPweather.com
Your source for Parkway weather. Don't get caught in the rain, fog, or snow! Know what lies ahead on all 469 miles. Accurate forecasts and local weather stations plus live Parkway weather cameras at ***www.BRPwebcams.org***.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation
Join our active group of Community Stewards, who work together to protect and enhance the Parkway. The Foundation supports:
The Blue Ridge Music Center (Milepost 213) - Visit the Roots of American Music Museum, take in live music and flatfoot dancing performances, explore the trails, and shop for gifts. ***www.BlueRidgeMusicCenter.org***, (276) 236-5309.
Kids in Parks - Explore TRACK Trails that dot the landscape with free self-guided brochures designed to introduce children to nature, turning ordinary hikes into fun-filled adventures. ***www.KidsInParks.com***, (866) 308-2773, ext. 384.
For more information contact: *www.BRPFoundation.org* • (866) 308-2773

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway
Non-profit, membership organization dedicated to preserving, promoting and enhancing the Blue Ridge Parkway, a national treasure. FRIENDS programs focus on preservation, protection, education, and engaging the next generation in volunteerism along with funding Parkway programs. FRIENDS' invests over 1 million dollars of volunteer service to the Parkway annually. Join the growing number of FRIENDS supporters--$30 annually will make a difference. PO Box 20986, Roanoke, VA 24018. (540) 772-2992. ***www.FriendsBRP.org***

VirtualBlueRidge.com
An online guide dedicated to the Blue Ridge Parkway. Available information includes interactive maps, news & events, travel planning tools, and a virtual tour of the entire Parkway. ***www.virtualblueridge.com***

Visitortips.com and FPIS Inc
The East Coast's premier brochure distributor, brings you an online virtual display. It allows users to access brochures before and during travel with links to websites & more. We are delivering the power of brochures to the internet. Visit ***www.visitortips.com***.

INCLUDES
THE PARKWAY MILEPOST

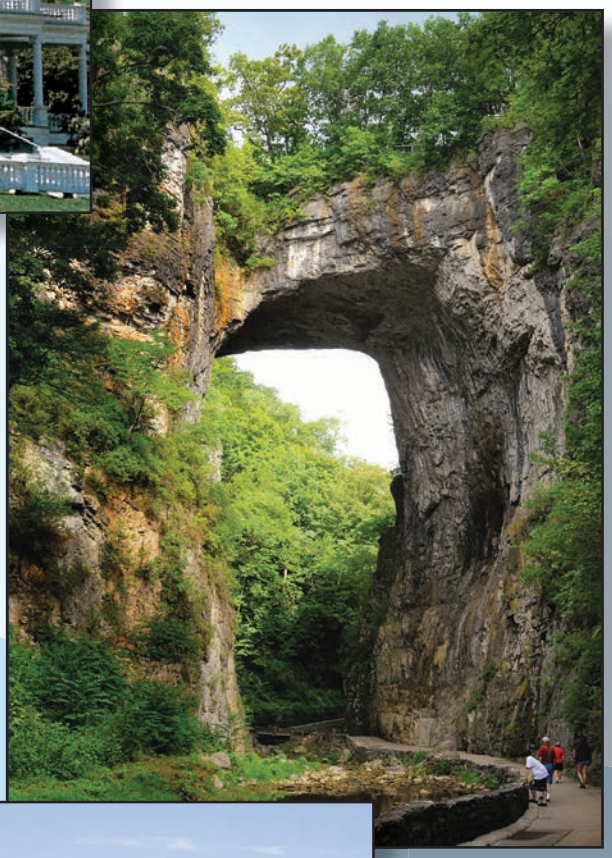
ALONG THE PARKWAY

You'll find opportunities for recreation, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, camping, wildlife viewing and much more.



Parkway Craft Center
at the Moses Cone Manor
Milepost 294

There are 469 miles of spectacular scenery from the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee.



Natural Bridge Park & Historic Hotel
Natural Bridge, VA
Exit at Milepost 63.9





Folk Art Center
Asheville, NC
Milepost 382