



67th
Edition

Blue Ridge Parkway

www.blueridgeparkway.org

DIRECTORY



TRAVEL PLANNER



Grandfather Mountain

Linville, NC

Exit at Milepost 305.1

Roanoke Star and Overlook

Roanoke, VA

Exit at Milepost 90 - 121



Biltmore

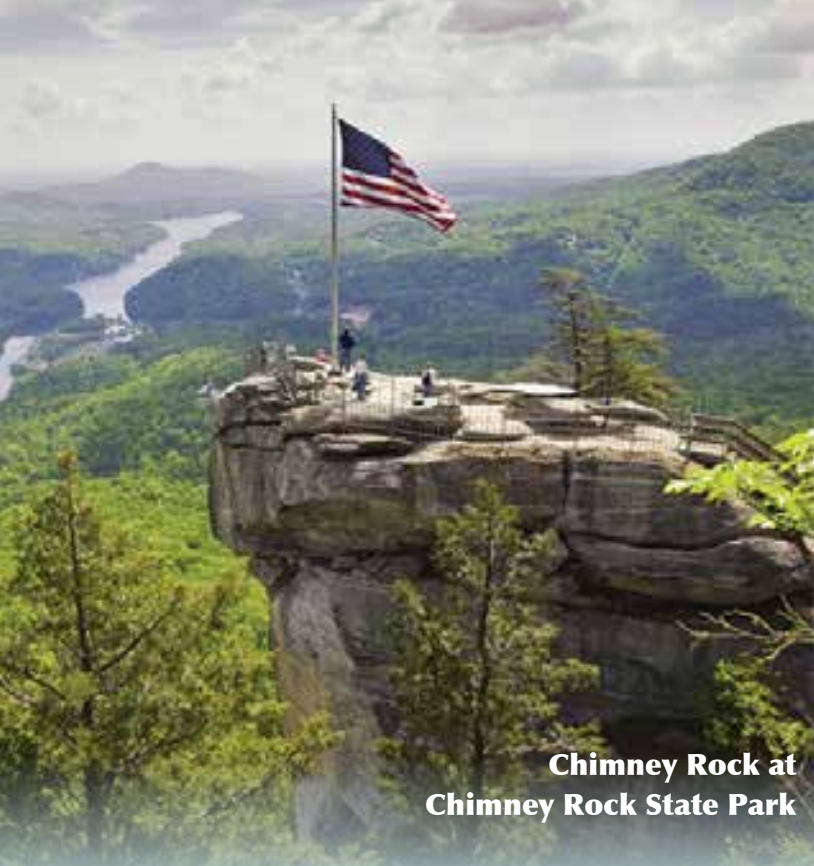
Asheville, NC

Exit at
Milepost 388.8



The National Park Service
Is Celebrating
100 Years

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 67th Edition

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. BOX 2136, ASHEVILLE, NC 28802

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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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Superintendent's *MESSAGE*

This past year has been an exciting one on the Parkway. We have seen many facilities open for the first time in many years, wonderful special events, and a ramp up of

excitement and planning for the National Park Service's Centennial in 2016. It is a pleasure to both look forward towards the park's future and back upon the accomplishments and challenges over the years during this special anniversary.

America has changed dramatically since the birth of the National Park Service in 1916. The roots of the National Park Service lie in the parks' majestic, often isolated natural wonders and in places that exemplify our cultural heritage, but their reach now extends to places difficult to imagine 100 years ago – into urban centers, across rural landscapes, deep within oceans, and across night skies.

Just as America itself has changed, so have many of the lands adjacent to and viewable from the Parkway. Once, a winding drive that offered only vignettes of the patchwork of the largely rural Blue Ridge mountain region, today from the Parkway many of the views are different. Both Roanoke and Asheville are vibrant and sprawling along the Parkway's edge in Virginia and North Carolina. Forests on properties, adjacent to the parkway are growing and changing, sometimes blocking views that were originally there, but also giving visitors a "wilder" experience in an ever urbanized world. These changes offer new promise and in some cases also represent new challenges.

In our second century, the National Park Service must recommit to the exemplary stewardship and public enjoyment of these places. We must promote the contributions that national parks and programs make to create jobs, strengthen local economies, and support ecosystem services. We must use the collective power of the parks, our historic preservation programs, and community assistance programs to expand our contributions to society in the next century.

The Parkway is the backyard playground of an increasing number of residents along the edges of the Blue Ridge and continues to be a destination for visitors from around the world. The Centennial gives us the opportunity to look at our challenges and successes with a different lens. It is a chance to ask the questions "why" and sometimes even "why not". But largely, we hope that during this year of the Centennial that people come back to appreciate the Parkway in their own special way.

We challenge our return visitors to share their experiences with others, bring a friend, a young person or share their Parkway story on social media. We challenge people to give this park the amazing gift of your time, to volunteer to keep this place and the many others like it safe and enjoyable for the generations to come. I truly believe that it is our duty as Americans to not only use these places, but to promote and protect them. Please join us as we work to do just that.

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

Become "Parkway Proud"

My Favorite Thing
on the Parkway is...



...the color **BLUE**



...The Pink Lady Slipper



...the bobcat

FIND YOUR PLACE ON PARKWAY THIS CENTENNIAL YEAR

"Find Your Park" is the clarion call from the National Park Service as we introduce or remind all of the value and importance of parks this centennial year.

As you travel the Blue Ridge Parkway, we encourage you to view it as more than just a road and to experience it as a journey that ties together a diverse landscape and lifestyle that connects the past with the present and is managed to preserve the region's heritage for the future.

Some visitors come to the Parkway with a destination in mind, perhaps revisiting an overlook where they have experienced a special moment from the past.

Some first-time Parkway travelers find their special place after they arrive. It can happen

in sudden and unexpected ways where the elements of weather or season or foliage combine perfectly, stamping an impression in their mind that will be with them forever.

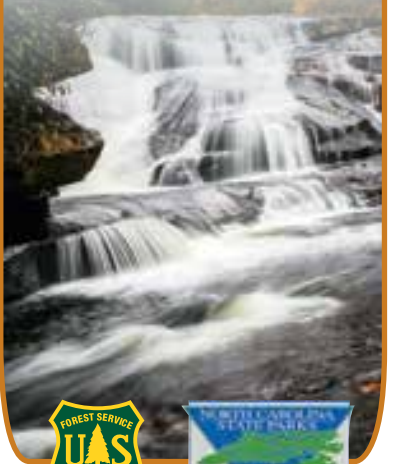
Become "Parkway Proud"

We invite you to celebrate our Centennial year by becoming a Parkway Proud advocate. Make your Parkway experience personal. Find your place on the Parkway and share it with others by connecting with us on Facebook or Instagram (@blueridgenps) and tell us your favorite Parkway memory, milepost or moment. Include the hashtag #ParkwayProud.

Celebrating Three Centennials

1916 was a significant year for the formation of parks and forests that would protect some of America's most beautiful and possibly endangered resources. In 2016, the North Carolina State Parks System, the National Park Service, and Pisgah National Forest will celebrate 100 years of stewardship of these lands, which have become our state and national parks and a national forest.

Celebrate these milestones, join in the Find Your Park campaign at <http://www.nationalparks.org/explore-parks/find-park> and plan your next outdoor adventure.





[ONE OF...] AMERICA'S "BEST IDEAS" TURNS THE CENTURY MARK

Today, over 400 sites comprise the National Park System, whose mission remains "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."



Upper Falls of the Yellowstone. Thomas Moran.

As we celebrate the National Park Service Centennial in 2016, we are reminded of the important role landscape artists played, and continue to play, in revealing the grandeur of the nation's resources.

As explorers moved westward across the country's plains, prairies and mountain ranges, the work of painter and print maker Thomas Moran, photographs of William H Jackson, and the paintings of Thomas Hill, Albert Bierstadt and George Catlin influenced lawmakers to both promote and protect the unbelievable landscapes that were part of the American identity.

George Catlin, one of the earliest to articulate the national park idea spoke of "some great protecting policy of government ... a national park, containing man and beast, in all the wild(ness) and freshness of nature's beauty" in the 1830's.

Not until 1864, however, did the state of California bring the idea at least partially into reality. The U.S. Government, in an act signed by Abraham Lincoln, transferred the Yosemite Valley to the state of California "to be used and preserved for the benefit of mankind." The lands would be "held for public use, resort, and recreation... for all time."

Multiple expeditions to the Yellowstone region in the next decade made public the remarkable wonders of that territory. Members of this expedition suggested the possibility of preserving the area as a truly "national" park... "dedicated and set apart as a public park or pleasuring ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people." Despite some opposition from members of congress, a bill passed on March 1, 1872, signed by President Grant creating the world's first national park.

Almost twenty years later, three more great scenic areas were designated as national parks – Sequoia, General Grant (later Kings Canyon NP), and Yosemite when it was transferred from California to the United States. Nine more parks were added to the list by 1916.



Hayden Survey party at Old Faithful 1871. William H. Jackson

*Photos courtesy of the
National Park Service*



U.S. Cavalry in Yosemite. 1899.

It was becoming obvious, however, that there were difficulties inherent in managing and protecting such remote areas in the “wild and woolly” West. It is a fact that in this era highwaymen held up coaches and robbed visitors to Yellowstone National Park, and poachers operated within park boundaries.



*Stephen Mather plaque can be seen
at Linn Cove Visitor's Center*

Stephen Mather, a wealthy businessman and avid outdoorsman, who was recruited to go to Washington in 1915 to assist the Secretary on park matters.

Together with his top aide, Horace Albright, the two successfully lobbied Congress, tourism officials, and influential journalists for the creation of a new agency. On August 25, 1916, legislation creating the National Park Service was signed with Stephen Mather and Horace Albright providing direction and oversight for the new agency as the first two Directors. As the National Park Service celebrates the achievements of the past 100 years, park officials look to the future to ensure that the centennial marks more than just a birthday. We invite you to be inspired by these special places that visionaries advocated for over a century ago.

So, Where Was the Parkway Idea a Hundred Years Ago?

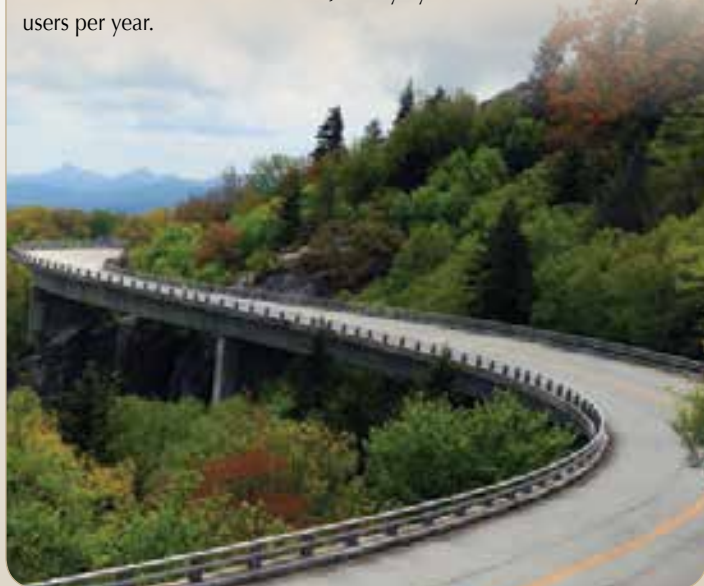
1916 is the date you will hear talked about in every National Park this year... this centennial year. But the Blue Ridge Parkway was not authorized by Congress until 1933, construction did not begin until 1935, and the road was not completed until 1987. So, where was the Parkway concept a century ago? Perhaps more developed than you may realize.

As early as 1909, the vision of a recreational road – a pleasure road and a scenic route – along the summit of the southern Appalachian Mountains had been planned and actually surveyed.

As the national park movement was growing and the creation of a National Park Service just a few years away in 1916, America's attention seemed to be focused here in these mountains on the relatively new ideas of scenic areas, tourism, and travel.

Although construction of such a roadway began in 1912 with a crew of 100 men, World War I diverted resources and funds in other directions. Decades before the authorization of the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1935, a pre-Parkway idea was taking route, fitting in with the park movement growing throughout the nation.

Work on the National Parkway began in September 1935 near Cumberland Knob, providing public service jobs for the nation's unemployed following the 1930's Great Depression, with the vision of linking Shenandoah and the Great Smoky Mountains National Parks. Progress on this road, designed to “lay easy on the land”, continued until the 1940s when work slowed again due to World War II. Through the 1950s and 1960s work resumed until one final piece of the puzzle, an intricate and environmentally sensitive area around the slopes of Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina was completed in 1987. What visitors enjoy today is 469 miles of leisurely driving with no traffic lights, no advertisements and uninterrupted scenery – the Blue Ridge Parkway is often called America's Favorite Journey by the 16 million Parkway users per year.



The designed landscape of the Parkway offers hundreds of spectacular views. To best enjoy these views, get out of your vehicle or off your motorcycle and use the Parkway's many overlooks.



PLACES TO PAUSE...

Check www.nps.gov/blri for availability of food and lodging during the 2016 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		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.

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.



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.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

– A Responsible Visit

Parkways Do's and Don'ts:

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.

LAKE 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.

■ 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.



Wildlife Observation:

Did you see an interesting wildlife observation or something rare?

Email us at BRP_Wildlife@nps.gov with information on what you saw, the date and location. Sending a photograph of your sighting is always helpful.

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 seasonally. 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, Otter Creek, 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 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 or **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).

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



Peaks of Otter



Pisgah Inn • Treetops

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.

PARKS ARE 4 U!

Cultural Demonstration and Special Events

The sights and sounds of traditional rural life in Appalachia are portrayed through cultural demonstration and special events in many locations on the Parkway. Join the crowd to experience the unique music and culture of the region at Humpback Rocks, Mabry Mill, Brenigar Cabin, Roanoke Mountain Picnic Area and the Blue Ridge Music Center.

Numerous special events celebrate different aspects of the Parkway's history and heritage. These include: Music and Art in the Mountains at the Peaks of Otter, The Transportation Festival at James River and the Overmountain Victory Celebration at the Minerals Museum of North Carolina.



The living history Overmountain Victory Celebration encampment provides a glimpse of various colonial activities, and tells the story of the Overmountain Men and the Battle of Kings Mountain.

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

Ranger Led Programs

A variety of interpretive programs are offered 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.



Every Kid In The Park



The National Park Service is inviting every kid in America to *find their park* as we celebrate our 100th birthday in 2016.

The Every Kid in a Park program provides fourth graders and their families with free entrance to the national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries. By doing so, we hope to inspire the next generation and their families to go outdoors, to be active, to spend time together, and to explore the "living classrooms" that these lands represent.

Educators and community leaders can access educational activities, field trip options, and the ability to print passes for their classrooms. Parents visiting the website can find additional links for more information on planning trips to nearby public lands.



The pass is valid for the school year for fourth graders and three accompanying adults (or an entire car for drive-in parks) at more than 2,000 federally-managed sites. Visit the Every Kid in a Park website at <https://everykidinapark.gov/> to obtain your pass and start your outdoor adventure!



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.

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 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 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. 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.



◀ Birch leaves
turn yellow

Blackgum ▶
leaves turn
deep red

Dogwood ▶
leaves turn
deep red

◀ Red Maple
leaves present
a range of color
from yellow –
maroon

◀ Oak
leaves
range
from
russet to
maroon

Sassafras ▶
leaves turn
vivid orange

▶ Sourwood
leaves turn
deep red

▶ Tuliptree
leaves turn
yellow

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 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 occurring 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.

▶ **Check for weather or construction-related closures updated daily by Blue Ridge Parkway staff.**
maps.nps.gov/blri/road-closures

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

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.



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



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



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



Mountain Laurel
 (*Kalmia latifolia*):
 A medium shrub with pink flowers.



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

Flowers



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



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



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



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.



White Trillium
 (*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.



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

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.



HIKING

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

Kids In Parks / Track Trails



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

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.

Traditional Music Trails

Some of the best places to hear traditional Appalachian music can be found at several locations on and off the Parkway.

The 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. Experience regional traditional music each day of the week from with FREE local Mid-Day Mountain Musicians playing on the breezeway of the visitors center from Noon - 4 PM May through October.

Visit the Roots of American Music museum to learn more about the history and growth of the region's musical heritage.

From the Parkway, travelers can easily find more music in towns and venues throughout the region!



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

Waterfall Hikes

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. Here 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.

MANAGING PARKWAY VIEWS

More than Meets the Eye



Managing the scenic beauty of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a complex and important task. From the beginning, and as cited in Parkway's enabling legislation... the Parkway was created to "Conserve the scenery and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the park's designed and natural areas."

As a result of that mandate, the Blue Ridge Parkway was designed to maximize scenic views and give visitors the impression that they are in a park with boundaries to the horizon. Today, the Parkway has some 500,000 acres of view area scenery within a two-mile wide, 469 mile-long corridor. To break it down even further, there are:

- Over 1200 views that showcase the beauty of the mountain region. Two-thirds of the 1200 mountainside and rural farm landscape Parkway views are owned by private landowners; and the other one-third are on land managed by the U. S. Forest Service.
- Of these 1200 views, 889 are considered managed vistas. These managed vistas fall to the Parkway staff to manage and maintain.
- There are 596 managed vistas in North Carolina (of which 141 are at overlooks) and 293 managed vistas in Virginia (of which 74 are at overlooks)

Studies through the years consistently site the primary purpose for visiting the Parkway is to enjoy outdoor recreation and view scenic beauty. As trees have grown over the years, views have been impacted and park visitors frequently communicate with park staff, partner groups, elected officials and others that

because of this growth, their experience was diminished.

The Parkway currently has a program in place that clears the top sections of each vista on a three year rotation. In many areas though it is the 70+ years of growth at the bottom of vistas, which may be beyond the Parkway boundary that often obstructs the scenic view. Park managers are working to identify which potential vistas can be restored to the original design intent of the Parkway while addressing natural resource protection laws governing park actions.

In recent years, neighboring communities and Parkway partner organizations have gotten involved and provided funding for vista restoration. These funds have brought highly skilled arborists into the park to address the tallest trees (50-70 year growth) at the bottom edge of a managed vista. The Haywood County Tourism Development Authority at the southern end of the Parkway donates funding annually to help clear vistas in the 40 miles of park through this community, and FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway Virginia License Plate funds are also designated to address view shed management on the Parkway. These projects have been very successful and the park is anticipating increased funding and interest in these types of projects.

Effective management and conservation of one of the Parkway's signature features is a complex undertaking. Thankfully, with increased awareness of the issue and support from partners and communities, the future is bright and the views long.



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

THE CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE:

Preparing for the Next One Hundred years

As millions of visitors come to experience America's Favorite Journey in 2016, they'll see campsites, trails, and historic landmarks being repaired and renewed.

In 2015, the US Congress passed legislation appropriating \$10 million to fund projects across the National Park Service. The legislation required these funds be matched dollar for dollar by private donors and partners. As National Parks and their partners rose to the "challenge", 106 projects across the country were funded.

Locally, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation will meet the challenge through their fund-raising efforts. This resulted in five approved restoration projects for the Blue Ridge Parkway.

These enhancements and repairs are underway and more are ahead as the celebration continues, marking 100 years of caring for and sharing stories about the most incredible places in our country.

Johnson Farm Restoration

Milepost 86 Historic structures on the Johnson Farm provide a rare glimpse of "middle class" life in the mountains, rather than the more typical pioneer life. When purchased by the NPS, a farmhouse, apple house, spring house, smokehouse, barn, corn crib, shuck shed, chicken house, and outhouse were on the property and open to the public in the 1960s. Significant deterioration occurred over the decades. As shake roofs are replaced, rotted wood siding, rafters and structural beams are removed and replaced, this restoration will ensure the continued use of the site for many years to come.



Paving of Abbott Lake Trail

Milepost 86 – All visitors, including those with physical disabilities, will be able to enjoy the one-mile loop around Abbott Lake thanks to the repaving project. This spot, which welcomes more than 200,000 visitors each year, is the first complete ADA trail along the Parkway.



Price Park Campground & Picnic Area Rehab

Milepost 297 - Visitors will enjoy upgrades to the walkways and campsites at the most-visited campground on the Parkway. The paths were created 50 years ago, and with 30,000 visitors annually, they were in need of repair. Visitors will find repaved walkways and enjoy campsites featuring updated fire grills and picnic tables come spring.



Mount Pisgah Amphitheater

Milepost 408 - The Mount Pisgah Amphitheater, constructed in 1960, is long overdue for a facelift. In 2016, new bench seats will be installed, the electrical system upgraded and repaving completed, the venue can comfortably host interpretive programs and campfire gatherings.



Look for additional Centennial Challenge projects in the years ahead.

Unlike most national park areas, the Blue Ridge Parkway is a planned landscape – planned down to the smallest detail.

DESIGNING THE PARKWAY

The landscape architects who envisioned and laid out the scene and the engineers who built the design on the land

the continuous mountaintop location of the Skyline Drive through Shenandoah National Park, the Parkway design offered a variety of kinds of viewing experiences. Abbot 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.

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.

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 than 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

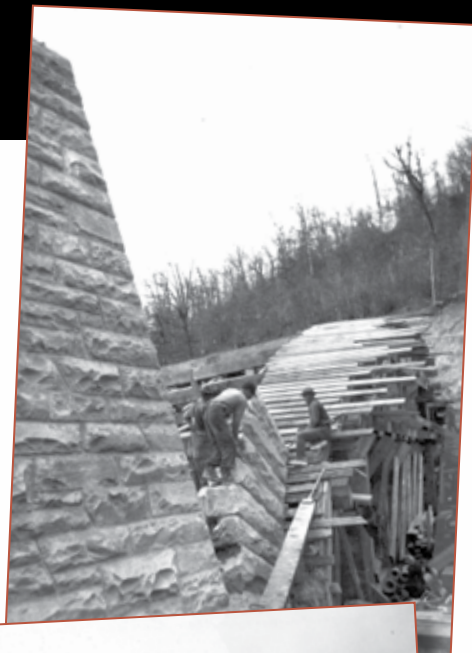
Broadly speaking, the road was to nestle gently on the land, blending into a protected corridor, giving the impression that the horizon would be the boundary.

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





HOW YOU CAN HELP

Join the National Park Service team!

Volunteer services, internships and a variety of partnerships have become an 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.

If you are a student looking for a meaningful internship or someone with extra time who'd like to volunteer, you can make a difference by bringing your unique experience, background, interest and perspective to our work.

There are thousands of opportunities for high school, college, and graduate school students to work alongside National Park Service staff to explore potential careers, gain valuable job experience, fulfill college requirements, and learn new skills. Many internships are filled at the park level so contact the park that interests you - - but others are



For more information about volunteering on the Blue Ridge Parkway visit www.nps.gov/blri/supportyourpark/volunteer.htm

advertised and recruited nationally by the National Park Service or in partnership with several national organizations.

In addition, 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.

We welcome the interest and involvement of all generations who will help us care for our nation's environment and preserve her history. Go to <http://www.nps.gov/aboutus/jobsforstudents.htm> to learn more about student internships.



Flat Top Manor, milepost 294 | Photo by Vicki Dameron

Contact

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

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

The Blue Ridge Parkway is no ordinary road. With 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 you, 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.

**Discover Your Journey...
Then Help Us Protect It.**



BRPFoundation.org "A Community of Stewards"



PARKWAY PARTNERS

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 are essential and effective means for the National Park Service to fulfill parts of our mission and foster a shared sense of stewardship. Stephen Mather knew that building public support for a fledgling National Park System was crucial for its future.

Fortunately, many nonprofit partner groups now 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 about how you can participate in the vital work partners perform – educating, protecting and promoting the natural and cultural assets along “America’s Favorite Drive.”

*Learn
Volunteer
Experience
Preserve
Visit
Protect
Enhance*

Visit

Blue Ridge Parkway Association

*Local Businesses | Attractions | Mobile App
Accommodations | Online Resources
Recreation | Tourism*



Ways to Help:

- Use our interactive tools to plan your next trip on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Join us to support our regional tourism economy and improve visitor experiences.



Photo Courtesy Gatlinburg CVB

blueridgeparkway.org

Enhance

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

*Preservation | Natural Resources
Education Visitor Safety | Blue Ridge Music Center*



Ways to Help:

- Become a member of our Community of Stewards. Make a donation or purchase a NC specialty license plate to support a wide range of projects on the Parkway, from historic preservation to environmental initiatives.



brpfoundation.org

Volunteer

FRIENDS of the Blue Ridge Parkway

*Environmental Stewardship | Volunteerism Preservation
Educational Programming*



Ways to Help:

- Become a member, volunteer, purchase a VA license plate to support vista restoration, or connect with your local chapter.



friendsbrp.org

Learn

Eastern National

Shop | Visitor Services | National Parks Passport

Ways to Help:

- Shop at 13 unique Parkway stores in Blue Ridge Parkway visitor centers. Create a cash donation to the park and discover great ways to enrich your experience and multiply your memories!



easternnational.org

Shop at 13 uniquely focused Parkway Stores inside the Blue Ridge Parkway visitor centers to discover great ways to enrich your experiences and multiply your memories. Better still, these non-profit stores donate their proceeds to support the park's vital educational activities. Visitor Centers locations:

VIRGINIA

Humpback Rocks MP 5.8
James River MP 63.8
Peaks of Otter MP 86
Rocky Knob MP 169
Blue Ridge Music Center MP 213

NORTH CAROLINA

Moses Cone Memorial Park MP 294
Linn Cove Viaduct MP 304
Linville Falls MP 316
Minerals Museum MP 331
Craggy Gardens MP 364
Blue Ridge Parkway Asheville Visitor Center MP 384
Waterrock Knob MP 451

Preserve

Carolina Mountain Club

Volunteer | Hike | Trails



Ways to Help:

- Help construct and maintain the Mountains to Sea trail. Hike with us on the Blue Ridge Parkway.



carolinamountainclub.org

Protect

Conservation Trust for NC



Land Protection | Youth Conservation Corps | Hikes

Ways to Help:

- Join us for a hike and learn how we work with landowners and local land trusts to protect spectacular Parkway vistas. Support our NC Youth Conservation Corps to help build more Parkway trails!



ctnc.org

Experience

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area



Appalachian History | Performances and Festivals
Traditional Arts & Crafts | Blue Ridge Music Trails

Ways to Help:

- Protect and preserve the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area through the development of natural and cultural resources. Promote economic opportunity through heritage tourism.



blueridgeheritage.org

*Connect with the Blue Ridge Parkway!
Get the latest news and updates including
photos, events, and road conditions.*



BlueRidgeNPS



@blueridgenps



BlueRidgeNPS



@blueridgenps



nps.gov/blri

Parkway Partners in Action



EASTERN NATIONAL



The Blue Ridge Parkway's long-time partner in providing educational and interpretive sales material at all of the Blue Ridge Parkway visitor centers, as well as in many other National Park areas. You can visit their web store at: www.eparks.com/store/home/5101/Blue-Ridge-Parkway/ to purchase memorabilia, guidebooks, and information or call the Eastern National Parkway office at 800-220-2163.

eParks.com is the official online store of America's national parks, and is operated by Eastern National. A 501(c)3 not-for-profit cooperating association, Eastern National promotes the public's understanding and support of America's national parks and other public trust partners by providing quality educational experiences, products and services.



Eastern National was founded in 1947 by a group of park rangers. Their idea was to form a cooperating association that would serve a network of parks, and operate on a "sharing" principle. This meant that smaller parks, with lesser budgets and visitation, would be able to reap the benefits of a cooperating association, as many of the larger parks do. Since then, EN has grown to become the largest cooperating association in the United States, servicing over 155 parks, and operating more than 275 educational bookstores and museum shops in parks and other public trusts, ranging from Maine to South Dakota.

Eastern National helps the National Park Service by:

- By operating museum stores in more than 155 national park sites, and distributing profits to benefit the visitors to America's national parks and other public trusts
- By promoting visitation to and interest in America's national parks, through the Passport To Your National Parks® program, and a variety of marketing initiatives
- By offering meaningful products for visitors of all ages to enrich park experiences and multiply memories.
- By producing up to 100 site-specific and service-wide products annually, which provide visitors with additional insights into the cultural, natural, and scientific features of America's national parks
- By developing and maintaining relationships and partnerships with organizations such as the National Park Foundation, the National Park Trust, and numerous Friends' groups and cooperating associations, with outcomes that support the mission of the National Park Service

Since its inception, EN has donated more than \$107 million to its partners to support preservation, educational and scientific projects including:

- The purchase of land, artifacts, and media for park libraries
- Period costumes for living-history demonstrations and reenactments
- Signage and exhibits, facility renovations and upgrades
- Interpretive tools, educational programs, and staff training
- Archeological, historical, and cultural research programs





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.

SHENANDOAH



NATIONAL PARK

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.

- Most facilities and services are available April through November
- 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.
- Check the Park's website or call (540) 999-3500 for 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, Delaware North at Shenandoah National Park, 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 concessioner's website at www.goshenandoah.com

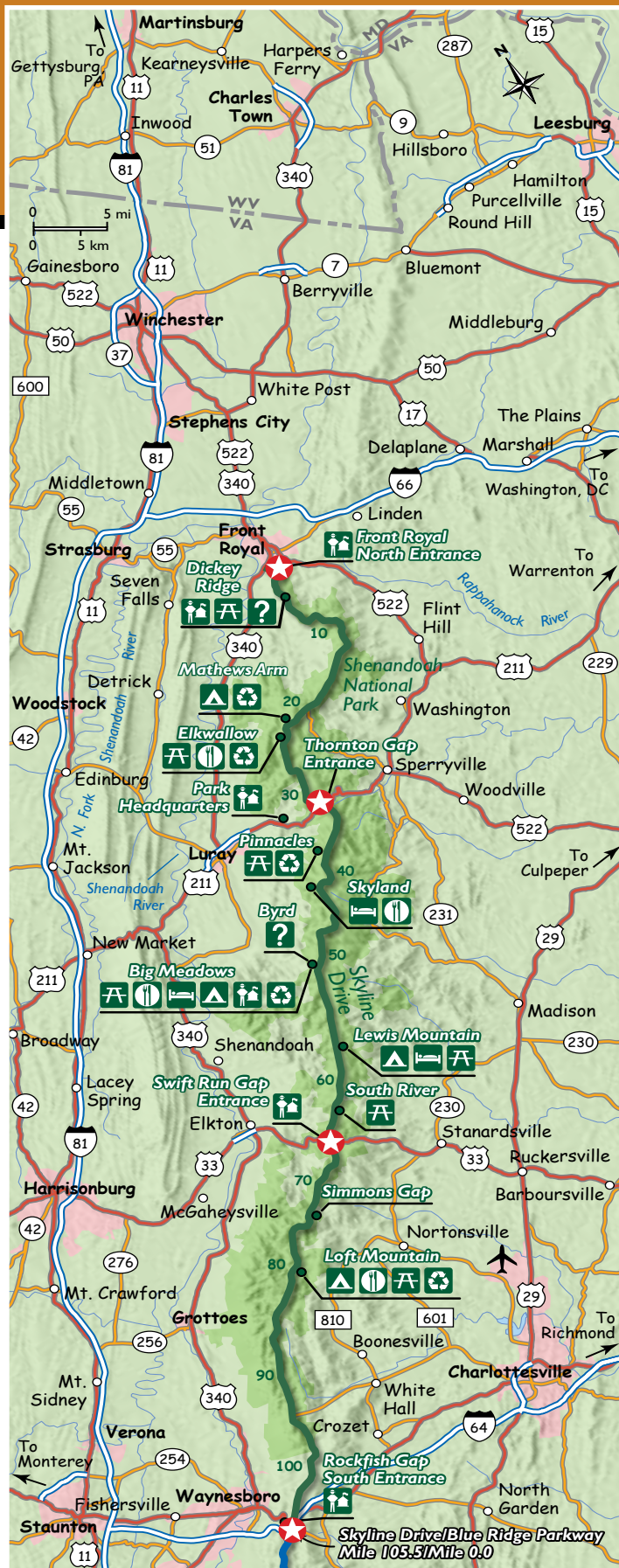
A LITTLE HISTORY

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

Private lands were purchased by the Commonwealth of Virginia. 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. 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

Destination Gettysburg: Explore civil war, farm markets, wineries, events, shops & dining. And you thought we were just history.

www.DestinationGettysburg.com

■ 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

RANGER STATION

TENT AREA

FOOD

RECYCLE AREA

LODGING

INFORMATION

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.frontroyalc canoe.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.



Female Northern Cardinal atop icy barbed-wire fence



Contact

Winchester-Frederick Co.

Visitors Center & Gift Shop

1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.

Winchester, VA 22601

Open 7
days a
week,
9am-5pm

Winchester, VA Region

The Winchester area offers a true hub for visitors to the Shenandoah National Park. A unique history, vibrant pedestrian downtown, and an array of lodging, dining and shopping choices all abound in a place where you can follow in the footsteps of George Washington, Stonewall Jackson and Patsy Cline.

Spring and summer visitors will be treated to the world-famous Apple Blossom Festival, thriving nights and a vibrant countryside. If you can take your eyes off the stunning leaves in the fall, you'll find a quieter pace and a full slate of fall festivals. Wintertime finds holiday events, cozy B&B stays, and a growing number of wineries to explore.

Don't wait too long; the good deals here go quick!

**A beautiful
18 mile stroll
from the
Skyline Drive,
via US 522
(I-81 exit 313)**

877-871-1326 ■ www.visitwinchesterva.com





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.

- 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.
- 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.



Contact

600 North Main Street Suite 101
Woodstock, VA 22664

Shenandoah County

Venture off the parkway to experience the charm and beauty of six historic small towns situated along U.S. Route 11 like a string of pearls. Shop a variety of small, family-owned businesses, enjoy the freshest, locally sourced meals at one of our many neighborhood restaurants and browse handmade treasures along the O Shenandoah County Artisan Trail. Travel our scenic byways to one of eight award-winning wineries and enjoy a pint at one of the area's craft breweries. Immerse yourself in the history of our nation along the Wilderness Road and Civil War Trails or see where legendary Peter Muhlenberg delivered his fiery Call to Arms speech in 1776. Explore the state's only underground caverns with working elevator service and take to the trails in the extensive acreage of national and state forest land throughout Shenandoah County

***There's
Only One
Shenandoah
County in the
Shenandoah
Valley!***

888-367-3965 ■ www.ShenandoahTravel.org

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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Allstar Lodging Vacation Cabins - Dozens of unique vacation rentals. 1-10 bdr. sleep 2-40 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 (540) 843-0606.

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 for over 90 years. It's the only Virginia cavern with elevator service, making it one of the easiest caverns to tour. Shenandoah Caverns Family of Attractions includes American Celebration on Parade (open seasonally), Main Street of Yesteryear and the Yellow Barn. Open all year. www.shenandoahcaverns.com (540) 477-3115.

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.



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.

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

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

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

800-338-2576 ■ www.discoverfrontroyal.com



DID YOU KNOW?

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

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.

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.



Contact

Visitors Center hours:

9am-5pm daily

18 Campbell St. • Luray, VA 22835

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, and 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's website, www.VisitLurayPage.com, or call toll free at 888-743-3915

Historic Culture

Friendly Atmosphere

Natural Beauty

Call for your free complete getaway planner.



888-743-3915 ■ **www.CabinCapital.com** ■ **www.VisitLurayPage.com**

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 will be open on weekends beginning in January, 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.

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.

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.

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

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.

■ 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.

■ 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.



Regional campgrounds offer many amenities for families.

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 (540) 433-8233.

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.

■ GROTTOS, VA

From MP 0, 4 miles West of the Sktline 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.

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.



Contact

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

Harrisonburg, VA

Just minutes from the Shenandoah National Park, this historic city is rich in Civil War history, iconic 19th century architecture, bike-friendly streets, family-friendly museums, innovative foodie spots, craft beer and Virginia wine. Harrisonburg is also known for its vibrant downtown; the first designated Arts & Cultural District and the first Culinary District in Virginia. It lures visitors and residents alike with buzz-worthy festivals and events throughout the year, including a summer film and music series, weekly live music performances, biannual Taste of Downtown week, and numerous beer, wine and music festivals. The Appalachian Trail and Main Street Community is populated with several cozy bed & breakfasts and luxurious hotels, each ready to welcome you with a unique lodging experience. Begin your adventure at the Hardesty-Higgins House Visitor Center, where you can chat with friendly travel specialists and learn more about the city's many amenities.

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

#hburgrocks

540-432-8935 ■ www.visitharrisonburgva.com

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.barboursvillwine.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.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know: The National Park Service regards natural sounds, darkness and starry night skies as essential parts of the natural and cultural resources that must be protected? They are vital to the protection of the wilderness character, fundamental to the experience of visiting historical and cultural sites, and critical for park wildlife. National parks contain some of the last remaining areas where natural sounds and lightscapes can still be found. Learn more at

www.nature.nps.gov/sound/



Historic sites and visitor centers are great places to learn about natural and cultural history.

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

Albemarle Tourism & Adventure and Visitor Center - Downtown Crozet, inside historic train depot. Free programs & events, visit www.visitcharlottesville.org/adventurecenter.

Montfair Resort Farm - 18 mi. from Parkway, MP 0.9 mi. N. of Crozet. Eco-friendly vacation cabins by lake. Pets welcome. Hiking, fishing, canoes, bikes. WiFi in most cottages. 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.

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.



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

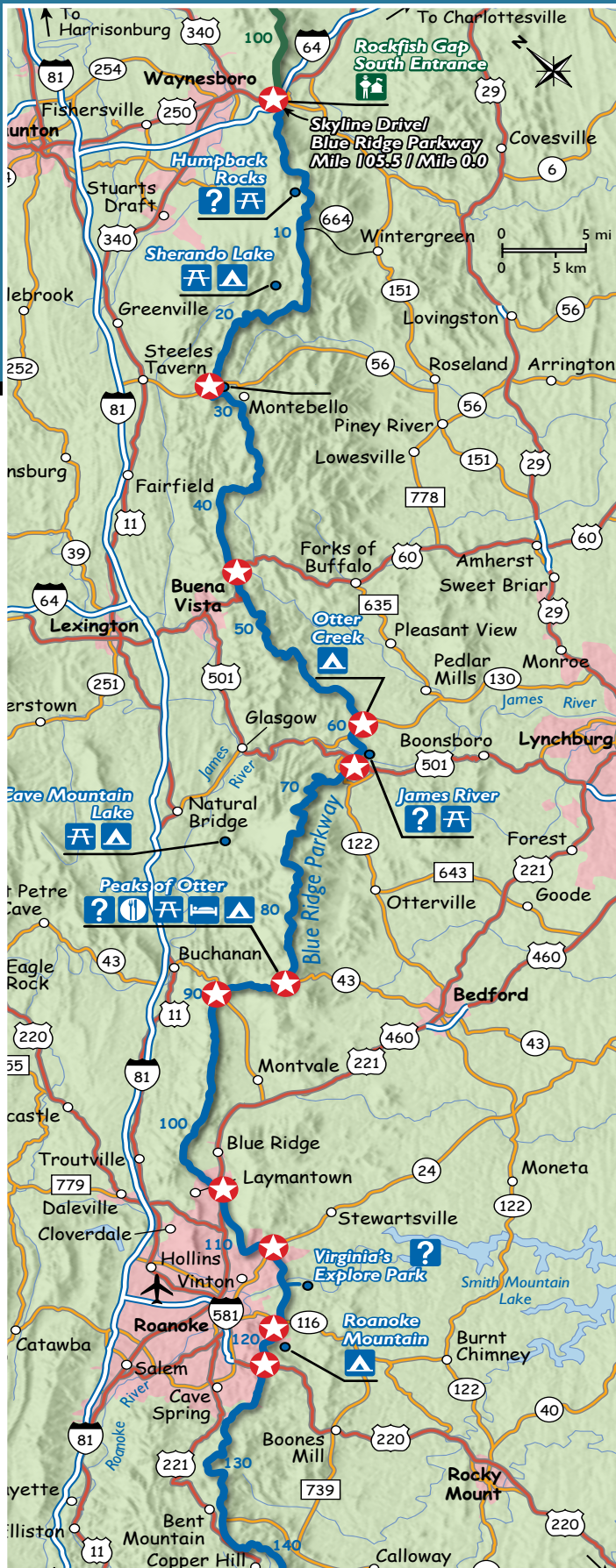
US 250	MP 0	less than 3 miles west
US 60	MP 45.6	less than 5 miles west
US 501	MP 63.7	less than 2 miles south
VA 43	MP 90.9	less than 5 miles north
US 460	MP 106	less than 4 miles west
VA 24	MP 112.2	less than 2 miles east or west
US 220	MP 121.4	less than 5 miles north
US 58	MP 177.7	less than 1 mile 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 1-2016

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



MAP KEY: Refer to page 24 for explanation of symbols

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.

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.

Staunton/Walnut Hills KOA - 15 miles from junction of Parkway and Skyline Drive, 9 miles from Staunton. RV & tent sites, cabins, open all year. (540) 337-3920.

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!

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.

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.

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 NPS 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.



Native plants are protected species along the Parkway.

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.

■ 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, Lovingson, VA 22949. www.nelsoncounty.com. For free travel & event information, e-mail: info@nelsoncounty.org (434) 263-7015.

5-9.3



Humpback Rocks Visitor Center ? & Park Store - 800 acres. Mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), Picnic area, comfort station (Milepost 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.



Bring plenty of water if you plan to hike!

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 - "Come in Love. Stay in Love. Leave in Love." Experience love in our 13 cabins and 4 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.

■ 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. Wood-burning fireplaces in every room. A full country breakfast is included; weekend dinner is available with 24 hours advance reservation. www.sugartreeinn.com (800) 377-2197.

DID YOU KNOW?

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



Contact

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

Nelson County, VA

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, cideries or distilleries.

**Experience the
Sunrise
Side of the
Blue Ridge**

434-263-7015 ■ www.nelsoncounty.com

■ 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.

Brierley Hill Bed & Breakfast - 985 Borden Rd. Lexington VA. Spectacular panoramic mtn & valley view, Jacuzzi suites, fireplaces, WiFi, 5 star. www.brierleyhill.com (800) 422-4925.

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.

■ 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.



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.



Lynchburg, VA

Take a detour at mile post 63.7 and experience celebrated historic places, diverse local cuisine, and unique shops as Lynchburg is the perfect place to stay while exploring Central Virginia!

Adjacent the Blue Ridge Mountains and along the James River, Lynchburg is one of Virginia's celebrated jewels. At times throughout its history, Lynchburg ranked as one of the wealthiest communities per capita nationally. This affluence fueled construction of extraordinary architectural building styles.

These historic structures are now revitalized into unique places with which to experience our arts, culinary and recreational activities. Warm hospitality and engaging sites including the Lynchburg Museum, Amazement Square Children's museum, and scenic trails along the James River, make Lynchburg THE place to stay while exploring regional treasures like the Blue Ridge Parkway, Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, and Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

**Take a turn
off mile post
63.7 to visit
#LynchburgVA!**

Contact

Lynchburg Visitor Center
216 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA

800-732-5821 ■ **www.DiscoverLynchburg.org**





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

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

63.7 Visitor Center ? and Park Store -
Exhibits and Self-guiding nature trail.

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

■ **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.

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.



Contact

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

Bedford, VA

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 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.

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



1-877-447-3257 ■ **www.visitbedford.com**



Enjoy the view, watch the road!

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.

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 - Located on the James River and nestled in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, just minutes to the Natural Bridge. www.campnabr.com (540) 291-2727.

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

■ LYNCHBURG, VA

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

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

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

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 Visitor Center ? and Park Store - 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.

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.



The Parkway is an adventure waiting to be discovered!

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.

■ 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 Artisan Trail - "Handcrafted and Homegrown in the Shadow of the Peaks of Otter." Artisan studios galleries, farms, dining, lodging, points of interest. MP 86.

www.artisantrailnetwork.org

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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Cedar Post Inn B&B - 1346 Reed Creek Rd. 8 mi. from Pkwy MP 63.7. 2 rooms w/ priv. bath, full breakfast, fish, hike, relax. www.cedarpostinn.com (434) 299-6327.



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

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.

Graham Ordinary B&B, RV Camping - Rustic, historical 4 suite B&B 1 mi off Pkwy, adjacent to Peaks of Otter. Cabin rental, 2 semi-private full service RV sites, back in site. Extra parking available. Follow on Facebook. (540) 586-0363.

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.

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



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!

Peaks of Otter Lodge - MP 86 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily from mid-April through November. Weekends December through early April. 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.

■ BUCHANAN, VA IN BOTETOURT COUNTY

At MP 90.9, travel 4 miles north on Rt. 43 to discover Buchanan's vibrant downtown where more than 200 historic structures dating from the 1800's to 1950's & four Civil War Trail Sites. Explore shops featuring antiques, art, primitives & collectibles. Enjoy a show at the Buchanan Theatre. Delight in an old-fashioned root beer float. Lodge within view of the spectacular James River. Steady yourself on our Swinging Bridge. Fish or paddle 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. www.visitbotetourt.com For more shops & events www.townofbuchanan.com (540) 254-1212 x4.

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Parkway is carried across streams, railway ravines and cross roads by 176 bridges and six viaducts.

Blue Ridge Parkway Plateau Region:

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



MAP KEY: Refer to page 24 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 at Explore Park. Contains a gift shop featuring local artisan crafts and Parkway memorabilia, 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 centerpiece of the exhibit area is a large scale topographical map of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Picnic areas are available adjacent to nearby parking areas. Explore Park features 14 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails, as well as access to the Roanoke River.

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 6 days a week year round. (April-October: Monday-Saturday: 10am-4pm) (November-March: Monday-Saturday Noon-4pm). (540) 853-1236.

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. Campground 1.3 mi. on spur road to Mill Mountain, 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 renovated Center in the Square, the Virginia Museum of Transportation 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.



NPS staff provide valuable information to visitors.

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.



Contact

Franklin County
Division of Tourism & Film
1255 Franklin Street, Suite 112
Rocky Mount, VA 24151

Franklin County, VA

Nestled among the foothills of the Blue Ridge, we are a Gateway to Virginia's mountains; Virginia's Rail Heritage Region and The Crooked Road - Virginia's Heritage Music Trail.

Experience a jam session along the Crooked Road or an exciting range of entertainment at the Harvester Performance Center. Discover local arts and hand-made crafts around the historic towns of Rocky Mount and Boones Mill. Find your Outdoor "Gate-Away" with a hike on scenic trails, paddling more than 70 miles of blueways, reeling in trophy bass or taking a splash at Philpott Lake and Smith Mountain Lake – now celebrating its 50th Anniversary.

No journey to Franklin County is complete without a visit to the Booker T. Washington National Monument – the birthplace of the famed orator, and to the Blue Ridge Institute and Museum at Ferrum College – where you will learn about life and culture in the Blue Ridge region. Find your Gate-Away in Franklin County.

**A "Gate-Away"
to Blue Ridge
heritage and
culture.**



(540) 483-3030 ■ VisitFranklinCountyVA.org

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.

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.

Hampton Inn & Suites Roanoke - 6 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost 121. 130 rooms, less than a mile to Airport, walking distance to Valley View Mall. 220N/581N to exit 3E. (540) 366-6300.

Holiday Inn Tanglewood - Roanoke, 4468 Starkey Rd., 2 M from MP 121. Best Views in the Valley. Renovated 2012. 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 Campbell - 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.



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

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

540-745-4407 ■ **www.VisitFloydVA.com**



■ 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) 483-3030.

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.

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.



Pine Spur Overlook, Virginia. Photo by Jeff Greenberg

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.

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.

Martinsville - Henry County, VA



Contact

Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center
191 Fayette Street • Martinsville, VA 24112
Parking and Convenient
Access Available on Moss Street

Located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Southern Virginia, Martinsville-Henry County, Virginia has plenty of activities available to guarantee that you and your family have fun in record time. Visit our trout-filled rivers, quiet lakes, and scenic trails. Experience heart-pounding racing at NASCAR's most historic track: Martinsville Speedway. Explore the arts and culture that our area has to offer from the Smithsonian-affiliated Virginia Museum of Natural History to numerous sites along the Smith River Artisan Trail. Live theatre, musical performances and spectator sports are offered throughout the year for guests to enjoy. With its beautiful location and rich history, Martinsville-Henry County is the perfect destination for your next getaway!

Stop by the state-certified Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center, inside New College Institute, for great customer service, maps, area information, coupons and a selection of unique souvenirs. Open Tuesdays through Saturdays 9am to 5pm and Sundays 1pm to 5pm.

**Experience
Fun in
Record
Time - just
30 minutes
from MP
177.7.**

888.722.3498 ■ VisitMartinsville.com



Wooden fences add historic value and practical boundaries to adjacent land.

■ 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 Saturday 10-5, Sunday 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.

Riverstone Organic Farm - 708 Thompson Road, Floyd, VA. 3 miles from Parkway MP 150. Certified Organic working farm with vegetable and livestock. Walking paths, riverside picnic area and farm store with local produce and gifts. Workshops, events and tours listed at www.riverstoneorganicfarm.com.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Ambrosia Farm B&B and Pottery - 5 mi West of MP 171.5. Historic log-built inn, fireplaces, WiFi, lovely views, porches, wineries nearby, pottery studio. 271 Cox Store Rd, Floyd VA. 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.

Chantilly Farm Campground - Full hookups, water, sewer and electric or tent camp. 2697 Franklin Pike, Floyd VA 24091. www.chantillyfarm.com (540) 808-4984.

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

Hotel Floyd - 300 Rick Lewis Way. 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.



Rhododendron, mountain laurel, and a variety of azaleas put on their big show from May through late June. See the bloom guide on Page 13.

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. No credit cards. Open year-round. (540) 745-4428.

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. MP 159.3. 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.stonemeadowinn.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.



Contact

Patrick County Tourism
106 Rucker St.
Stuart, VA 24171

Patrick County, VA

Come explore Patrick County, nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. After driving the Blue Ridge Parkway into the county, tap your toes to traditional mountain music along the Crooked Road Music Trail, tour our unique wineries—Stanburn and Villa Appalaccia—or visit local artisan studios on the Hidden Treasures Artisan Trail. Enjoy a sun-filled day at the Gordon Trent Golf Course, Fairy Stone State Park, or one of our eight annual festivals.

History buffs can browse our local museum, visit Jack's Creek Covered Bridge, or step into the Victorian era at the Reynolds Homestead or at the Civil War Reenactment at Laurel Hill, the birthplace of Gen. J.E.B. Stuart. Race fans can also visit the Wood Brothers Racing Museum in Stuart.

A variety of restaurants and local stores awaits you. After a fun-filled day, relax in luxury at Primland Resort or settle in at one of our cabins or a locally owned bed and breakfast.

276-694-6094 ■ **www.visitpatrickcounty.org**

**Come to
Patrick
County,
Va and
"Experience
the Simple
Life"**



DID YOU KNOW?

WATCH THE WEATHER!

The Blue Ridge Parkway is a place of extremes, varying greatly in elevation, ecosystems, and climatic conditions. Weather changes can occur rapidly, so be prepared when clouds roll in. Watching the weather while standing at a Parkway overlook can be a grand and interesting experience.

167



Rocky Knob Visitor Center ? and Park Store

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

■ 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! 5 stars on TripAdvisor. 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.ocotillasmtlnalpacos.net (540) 593-2143.

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

■ 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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

A Blue Ridge Cabin - Cozy, fully equipped log cabin, private, sleeps 7. 1.5 mi. from MP 177.7. Fireplace, peaceful deck, & onsite café. www.ablueridgecabin.com (813) 523-5408.



Challenging and scenic roads await motorcyclists.

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.

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.

Big Jon's Southern BBQ & Fixins - Southern style BBQ and American classics. 2639 Jeb Stuart Hwy. (276) 952-1127.

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.

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.

Meadows of Dan River Walk Cabins - 2 miles east of MP 177 BRP on Hwy 58. Peaceful mountain retreat with extraordinary cabins. www.meadowsofdanriverwalkcabins.com

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, Meadows of Dan. 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.



Keep your eyes open for wildlife.



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.

■ 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 Brook Trout is a native species in NC.



Wildlife abounds on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Drive carefully.

■ 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.

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.

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 Gap Deli at the Parkway - US 52 & MP 199.5.

Homemade soup, sandwiches, salads & desserts. Open daily with seasonal hours. (276) 728-3881.

■ 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

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



Contact

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

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.

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.

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

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

visitmayberry.com



Grassy Creek Cabooes - 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.

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.

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

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.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

Fancy Gap Dress Shop & Family Clothing - Name brands, discount prices for whole family: dresses, sportswear, golf apparel, ladies shoes, 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.



Contact

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

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.

336-356-8962 ■ **www.dobson-nc.com**



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.

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 Road. Cabin rentals, one bedroom, king bed, queen sofa bed. 3.5 miles from Mount Airy. 8 miles to Parkway at Willis Gap.

Comfort Inn Mount Airy - Exit 101 off I-77 to I-74, exit 11 to US 601 North. 2 miles take 52 Bypass South, at first light left. www.mountainairhotel.com. Call (336) 783-0008, (877) 424-6423.

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.mountainairhamptoninn.com Call (336) 789-5999 or (800) 565-5249.

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

Knights Inn - Exit 100 off I-77. Right (Hwy 89 East), 6 miles straight, right on 52 Bypass North, 1/2 mile on left. www.KnightsInn.com. (336) 786-8387, (800) 843-5644.

■ 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

Good Life Outfitter • Main Oak Shoes • Main Oak Boutique - Restaurant, historic restoration, downtown. Open 7 Days, WiFi. www.MainOakEmporium.com.

■ 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.versurry.com (877) 999-8390.



Surry County, NC Yadkin Valley Wine Country

**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.

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

Contact

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

800-948-0949 ■ www.yadkinvalleync.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?

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.

■ 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.



Turks Cap Lily



Blue Ridge Music Center - Milepost 213

■ 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.

■ 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 - Visitor Center ? and Park Store - open daily Summer-October. Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled seasonal performances (June-September) of old-time and bluegrass music. (276) 236-5309. 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.

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.



Contact

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

Galax, VA

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.

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

888-217-8823 • 276-238-8130 ■ www.visitgalax.com

■ 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 at Fancy Gap - US 52 North, past Wytheville to Big Walker. Open all year. (276) 663-4016.
www.scenicbeauty-va.com.

Bolling Wilson Hotel - 1927 hotel redesigned to pay homage to Wytheville's most prominent citizen, Edith Bolling Wilson, with design elements telling the story of her life. Elegant, cosmopolitan feel. www.bollingwilsonhotel.com (276) 223-2333.

■ 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.

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.



Contact

Wytheville Convention & Visitors Bureau
975 Tazewell Street • Wytheville, VA 24382
cvb@wytheville.org

Wytheville, VA

You can search the world over and not find another town with the name of Wytheville. But, the name is just the beginning of the unique and interesting aspects you will want to experience in this beautiful small town in Southwest Virginia. 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 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 motorcycle ride, fishing or unique shopping, there's something for the entire family. Accommodations range from all-suite and boutique hotels to family-oriented properties, luxurious bed & breakfasts as well as numerous campgrounds. Over 60 restaurants offer a variety to dining choices. Wytheville, Virginia...There's Only One.

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



877-347-8307 ■ www.VisitWytheville.com

Blue Ridge Parkway Highlands Region:

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



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., 24 mi to Independence, VA. East 4 Mi. to Roaring Gap, NC.

■ INDEPENDENCE, VA

24 miles northwest of Parkway on US 21. Exit Parkway at MP 229.

Oracle Institute Campus - 22 acres on the New River. "Peace Pentagon" Retreat Center with guest house, cabins, camping, trials & holistic classes/events. 88 Oracle Way. www.OracleGuests.com (276) 773-3308.

■ 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

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

MAP KEY: Refer to page 24 for explanation of symbols

■ GLADE VALLEY, NC

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

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.

High Meadows Inn & Nikola's Restaurant - 3.5 miles S. of BRP, spacious rooms, suites, cable/TV, free internet, & continental breakfast. www.highmeadowsinnnc.com Inn (336) 363-2221, Rest. (336) 363-6060.

■ 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 100+ chan, guest laundry. Restaurant on site. 48 solar panels, 7.5 miles MP 229. Reserve online: www.AlleghanyInn.com or (888) 372-2501.

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.



Split rail fence

A Riverfront Log Cabin Dream - 3-story log cabin on 20 acres on NC/VA state line, watch our video on our website! E-mail: riverbendofalleg hanyllc@gmail.com www.riverbendmountaincabins.com (305) 710-2935.

■ ELKIN, NC

Exit at Milepost 229 - travel south on Hwy 21. Visit more than 6 wineries of the Yadkin Valley on your way to historic Elkin. Lodging, restaurants, shopping and more!
www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com

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



Contact

www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com
www.WhatsUpinElkinNC.com

Elkin, NC

Looking for a base to visit both the Vineyards of the Yadkin Valley and the Parkway? Elkin is the geographic center of the gorgeous Yadkin Valley wine area, located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. When traveling to Historic Elkin from the Parkway, down Hwy 21, you'll have the chance to stop at over four Vineyards and Tasting Rooms – and 20 More can be visited within 20 Minutes of Downtown Elkin. The area offers some of the best places to shop, bike, hike and even paddle to see the fall color display. With the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail, Mountains to Sea Trail and the Yadkin River Paddleway, you'll have plenty of opportunities to learn of our history and stretch your legs from a day of touring. Discover other North Carolina wonders here – like fishing in our stocked trout waters of the Big Elkin Creek or strolling the historic architecture walk of downtown. Exit the BRP at Milepost 229 onto Hwy 21, travel south to Elkin.

**Visit The
Best Small
Town in
America!**



336-794-6469

www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com

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.

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).

■ 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 on 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-Nov. 12-8 Thurs-Sun or call for appt. (336) 984-8088 (c), (336) 359-8432 (h) or (336) 982-2059.

■ ASHE COUNTY, NC

www.thecoollestcorner.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.*



Contact

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

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?

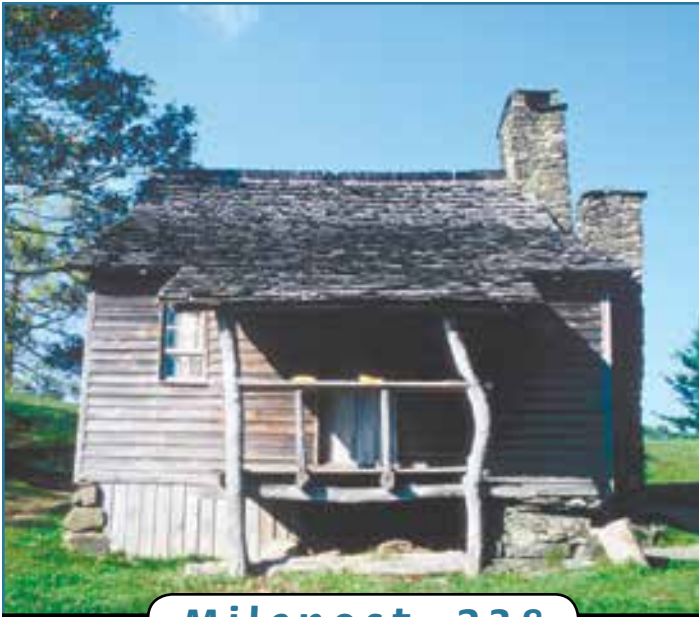
Discover an unhurried day with time to feel nature's pace, the slow rising of the sun, the warmth it brings to the day and the waning light that heralds nightfall. Discover the Blue Ridge Mountains of Alleghany County and Sparta, North Carolina. Ride winding two-lane roads and be awed by the same scenic 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 and Mile post 234.



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 and beauty 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.

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

■ GLENDALE SPRINGS, NC

100 yards west of Northwest Trading Post, MP 259.

Glendale Springs Inn & Restaurant - 9 rooms, free breakfast, all ABC permits, updated rooms, free WiFi, wedding space, historic property, recommended stop for bicyclists. www.glendalespringsinn.com (336) 982-3103.

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

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.zalooos.com (800) 535-4027.



Doughton Park

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.

■ 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.

Park Vista Inn & Restaurant - 1907 Park Vista Rd. MP 268. Totally renovated inn and restaurant. www.parkvistainn.com (336) 877-5200.

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.

■ 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.



West Jefferson, NC

Named one of North Carolina's "Best Main Streets" and winner of numerous best small town awards, West Jefferson is located just 20 minutes off the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Take a downtown walking tour of the 15+ mountain murals in the downtown arts district. Stop by the Ashe County Cheese Factory for some fresh cheese curds from the only cheese plant in NC. Visit a local brewery or dine in a historic building. Make sure to view the three Ben Long Frescoes in St. Mary's Church on your way into town!

Stroll the Lighting of the Town in the US's largest Christmas tree producing county and Choose & Cut your own Christmas tree. Visit one of the festivals, the farmers market, and listen to live music on the backstreet on cool summer evenings. View the changing fall leaves with a barn quilt tour through the countryside. Every season is celebrated in West Jefferson!

**The NC High Country:
Home to 121 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway.**

Contact

Exit at Milepost 259
800-438-7500

888-343-2743 ■ MountainsofNC.com

■ 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. 9:30-4:30 Tues-Sat; 1:00-4:30 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

Where Is The Boundary?

The "long view" from the Parkway is one of the many reasons visitors continue to come. The Parkway is confined to a narrow corridor for most of its route, but vistas stretch as far as the eye can see. The horizon becomes the boundary and serves as a vivid reminder that this place is a vital part of regional environmental issues and responsible planning.



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.

Visit www.byways.org for more information

■ HICKORY, NC

Get lost in the beauty of the Hickory Metro, just 45 miles from the Blowing Rock, NC Parkway exit, on US 321. Hike our scenic trails, fish in our streams, explore our cultural arts, science, and sports attractions, as well as experience the best place to buy furniture in the country. For more information call (828) 322-1335 or go to www.HickoryMetro.com.

■ 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.explore Caldwell.com (800) 737-0782.



Roan Mountain

Elizabethton/Carter County, TN

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!

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

Contact

P.O. Box 190
Elizabethton, TN 37644

ANNUAL EVENTS

**25th Annual Sycamore Shoals
Native American Festival:**
June 4 & 5

**49th Annual Covered
Bridge Celebration**
June 8 - 11

**Annual Rhododendron
Festival**
June 17 & 18

37th Annual Liberty!
The Saga of Sycamore Shoals:
July 16, July 21 - 23,
July 28 - 30

1- 423-547-3850 ■ www.tourcartercounty.com

Normal Daily Maximum & Minimum Temperatures

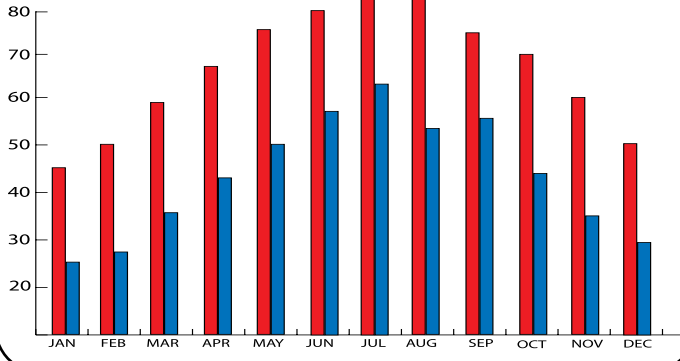
Average Elevation of 2100'

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



■ 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.

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

■ 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

Art of Living Retreat Center - Relax & Recharge. 3 mi from MP 285.5 in Boone. Stunning views & deep relaxation with workshops, yoga, delicious food, pottery classes & more at NC's hidden gem. www.artoflivingretreatcenter.org (800) 392-6870.

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.

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.

The Inn at Crestwood, Restaurant 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.



Yadkin Valley, NC

With abundant outdoor activities, local arts & crafts, charming bed and breakfasts and exquisite food and wine offered at local restaurants, in North Carolina's Yadkin Valley you have the makings of a great wine country getaway or family vacation. If your idea of fun includes hiking, biking, kayaking and canoeing, the Yadkin Valley offers all of that and more. Visit shops, restaurants, galleries, and antique stores, take in a farmers market or festival, tour our vast array of wineries and sample award-winning wines. Here in the Yadkin Valley, you'll discover a thriving, vibrant region, proud of its history and heritage and welcoming you to partake in its bounty. Exit the Parkway at Mileposts: 199.4, 215.8, 217.3, 229.7, 276.4 to enjoy all the Yadkin Valley has to offer.

vineyards
history
music
craft
art
festivals
outdoor fun

Contact

Interested in visiting the area and want more information?
www.GoYadkinValley.com

336-526-1111 ■ **www.GoYadkinValley.com**



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

The Gamekeeper Restaurant & Bar - MP 294, Right on Shull's Mill Rd, 2.5 miles. Eclectic stone cottage, outdoor dining, local harvests. www.gamekeeper-nc.com

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@hiddenvalley-motel.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.

Lovill House Inn - Award winning B&B in Boone on 421N. 6 Rooms/private baths/porch/11 acres. Full hot breakfast. www.lovillhouseinn.com (828) 264-4204.

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-Tetter. All ABC permits. www.peppers-restaurant.com (828) 262-1250.

Willow Valley Resort - 3 miles off Hwy 105 from Boone. Eff. 1 br/2 br/3 br cabins & condos. Fully furn. Golf, pool, fireplaces. Excellent getaway. 8am-9pm Sun-Sat. (828) 963-6551.

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.

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.



Contact

Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

(Funded by Wilkesboro Tourism Development Convention and Visitors Bureau)

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, canoeing 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, Carolina In the Fall, 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.



336-838-8662 ■ www.ExploreWilkes.com



Pick up a Trail Guide at your local Blue Ridge Parkway Center.

■ 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

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.

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.

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.

Blowing Rock Art & History Museum - 159 Chestnut St. MP 294.5, Tues. - Sat. 10am-5pm, Thurs. 10am-7pm. www.BlowingRockMuseum.org (828) 295-9099.

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.



Turn your headlights on when entering tunnels on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

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.holidayinnexpressblowingrock.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.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

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



Contact

Boone, NC
Exit at Milepost 291
ExploreBoone.com

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.

800-852-9506 ■ ExploreBoone.com



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

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.

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. www.southernhighlandguild.org (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 Visitor Center and **Park Store** - 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 Visitor Center and **Park Store** - Visitor information, comfort station, publications. Trail access viaduct. Alt. 4,000.

305.2

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



**Blowing Rock —
Crown of the Blue Ridge**

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.

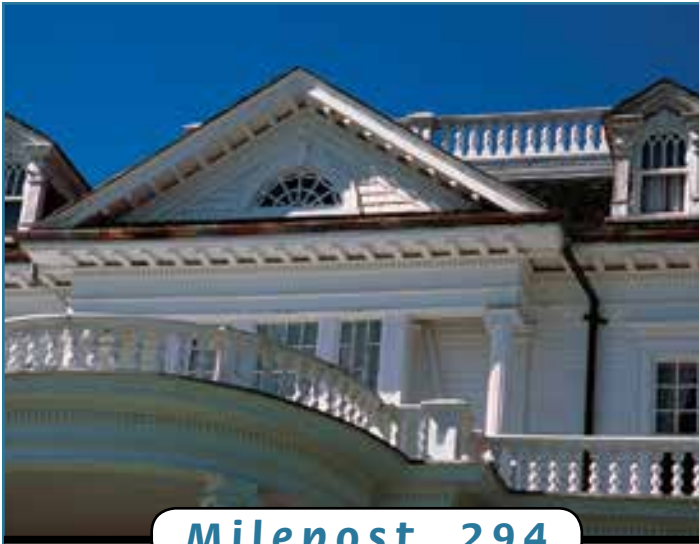
Known as the "Crown of the Blue Ridge," Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains, which are cool and refreshing in the spring and summer, before blazing into a beautiful tapestry of changing leaves in autumn and frosting with snow in winter.

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.



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.

■ 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 10-4 and Saturday from 11-3. 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.bestwesternbannereik.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

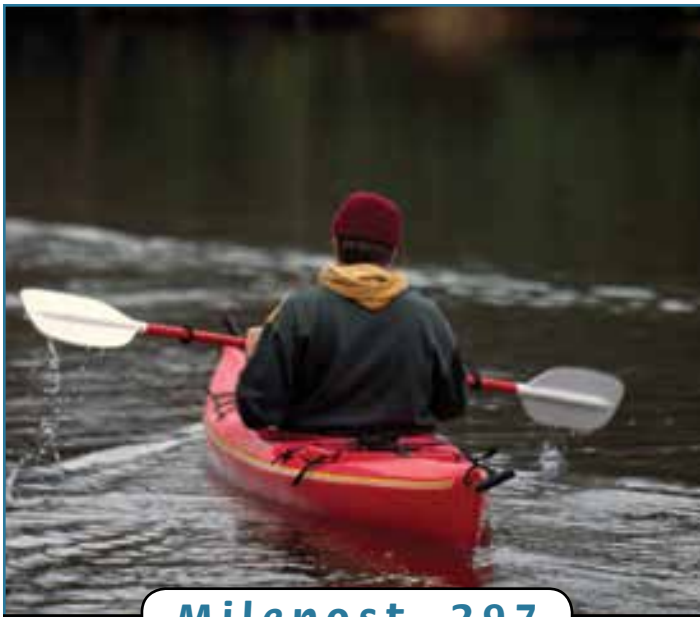
8 mi. from Parkway, exit MP 305.1, Hwy 221 S. to 184 N. Enjoy golf, tennis, hiking/biking, scenic lift rides, rafting, skiing, snowboarding, tubing, snowshoeing, and ice skating. Stay for one of our special events like the Shag at Sugar, Oktoberfest or SugarFest. Ample lodging from efficiency to large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

Resort Real Estate & Rentals at Sugar Mountain - 3390 Tynecastle Hwy, Banner Elk NC 28604. Fully equipped homes, condos. Cabins on Sugar. Rent by day/wk/mo. Book online 24/7. www.staysugarmountain.com (800) 438-4555.

DID YOU KNOW?

More Than A Road

The Blue Ridge Parkway is known nationally and internationally for its designed landscape as a scenic motorway. It is the longest road planned as a single park unit in the United States, protecting significant mountain landscapes far beyond the shoulders of the road itself.



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.

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.

■ 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.

61st Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - July 7-10, 2016. 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.

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.



Linville Falls

■ NEWLAND, NC

8 miles north of Spruce Pine off 19E, exit at Milepost 305.1.

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 ? and Park Store - campground. For camping reservations visit www.recreation.gov.

316.4

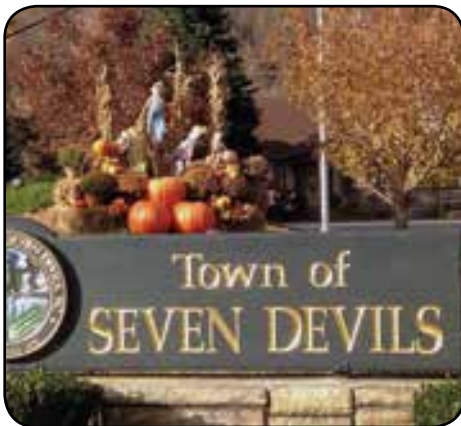
Linville River Parking Area. One of the Parkway's largest stone arch bridges. Three spans of 80 feet each. Fish in Linville River. Picnic area. Comfort Station. Alt. 3,250. Take Spur Rd. to Linville Falls, campground and visitor center.

317.4

US 221 Crossover. South 1 mi. to Linville Falls community. 24 mi. to Marion.

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.



Contact

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

Seven Devils, NC

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.

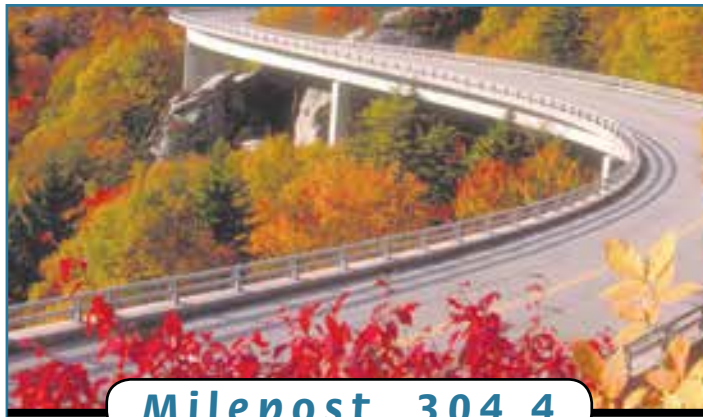
If you prefer your vacation a bit more action-packed, visit Hawksnest which boasts the largest snow tubing park on the east coast as well as high-flying zipline tours throughout the year. From chalets and condominiums - to mountain homes and log cabins, you will find private and unique lodging options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

"DISCOVER OUR POSITIVE ALTITUDE"

**Seven Devils—
A unique
Destination!**

828-963-5343 ■ www.sevendevils.net





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.

■ 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 - 4 cozy log cabins, 2 mi. from MP 317.4. 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.



www.twitter.com/BRParkwayAssoc



www.facebook.com/blueridgeparkwayassociation

The Village of Sugar Mountain, NC



Photo Courtesy of Todd Bush

Contact

Stay and play, in the Village of Sugar Mountain!

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 Enjoy the new Summit Express chairlift at Sugar Mountain Resort!



1-866-79-SUGAR ■ www.seesugar.com

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.

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.

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.

■ 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.



Avery County, NC

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, antiques, 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?

**Come for
the day,
spend a
lifetime.**

Contact

www.townofbannerelk.org
www.sevendevils.net
www.beechmtn.com
www.seesugar.com

Call today
for your
free visitor
guide.
Code: BR

800-972-2183 ■ www.averycounty.com





Museum of North Carolina Minerals Visitor Center and **Park Store** . 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.

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.mitcheill-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. Mine trips, flume mining, free fluorescent display. www.gemmountain.com (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.



McDowell County, NC

Explore our Blue Ridge Parkway communities between Linville Falls and Crabtree Falls, Mileposts 316 to 344, including the Orchard at Altapass and Little Switzerland. Take the scenic route to Marion, with downtown arts and crafts, food and vintage shopping. Old Fort's Mill Creek Village hosts an art gallery, visitor center, antique shop and Mountain Gateway Museum.

Follow our trails, including the Blue Ridge Traveler's Wine Trail, the spectacular McDowell Quilt Trail featuring over 200 barn quilts, and our scenic driving trails with the DiamondbackNC, White House Run, Lake James Loop and Cruising for Gold on the Vein Mountain Trail. Events, gallery sites, lodging, attractions and directions are online. Call to receive a free visitor guide and map!

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

888-233-6111

www.blueridgedrives.org



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 "Eeseeh" 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.

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 mile from Parkway MP 331 on NC 226N toward Spruce Pine at 179 Meadow View Rd. Web orders welcome year round. Classical seven path Labyrinth, Medicine Walks in nature. Visit www.soapshed.com or call (828) 765-6001.

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.

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.

Blue Ridge Parkway Pisgah Region:

**Milepost 340, Crabtree Falls to
Milepost 469, Cherokee, NC**

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.

www.yanceychamber.com (800) 948-1632.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Albert's Lodge at Mt. Mitchell - 5 min N of BRP, large rms, kitchenette, A/C, HDTV, WiFi, prvt. patio deck with spectacular view of Black Mtns, walk to Roaring Fork Falls.
www.AlbertsLodge.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.

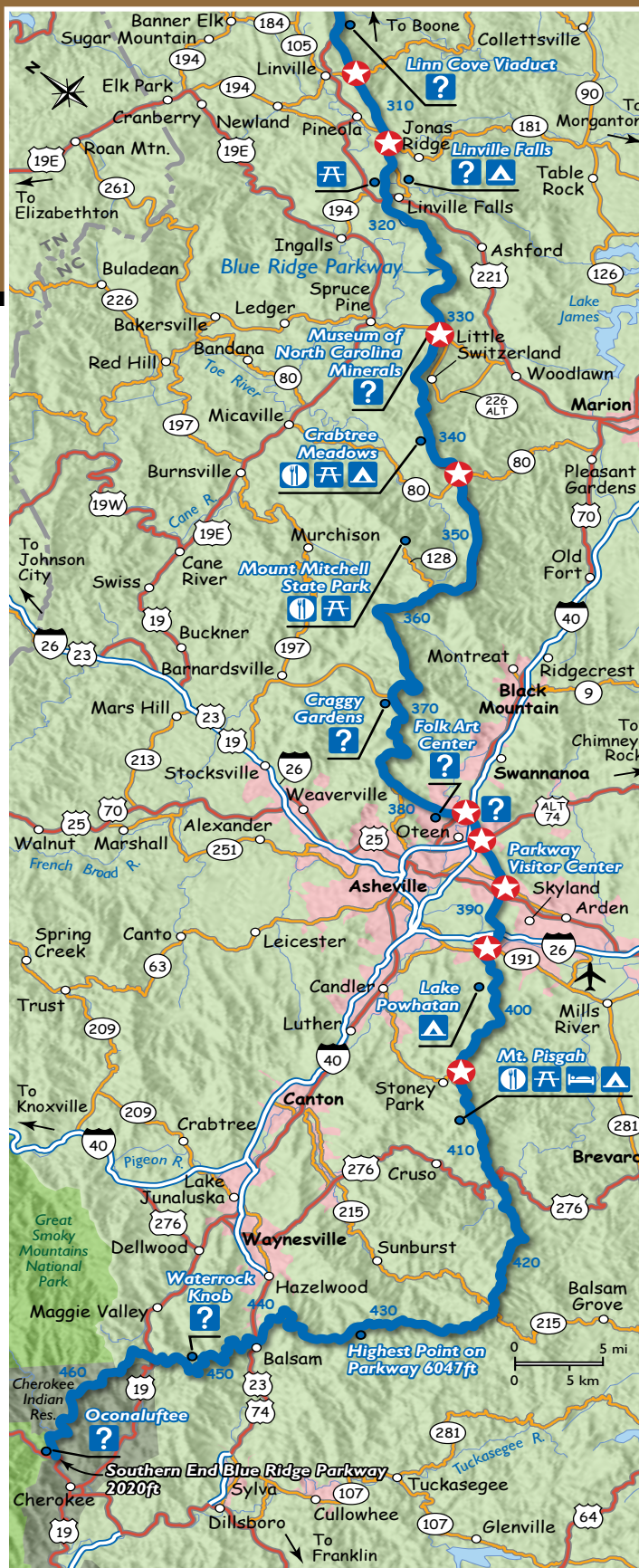
Carolina Hemlocks Recreation Area - 31 campsites. 6000 Hwy. 80 South, Burnsville, NC. Some sites with river access, near Mt. Mitchell. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

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.

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.



MAP KEY: Refer to page 24 for explanation of symbols



Milepost 364

CRAGGY GARDENS

The name here is appropriate - Craggy Gardens. Twisted, jagged, rocky "craggs" 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.

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 ? and Park Store - 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.

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 - I-40 Exit 64 behind Pizza Hut, 5 miles east of Parkway on I-40. Area's largest selection of quilter's fabric, upholstery and drapery fabric. (828) 669-2400.

Red Rocker Inn - Black Mtn. NC. 10 miles off MP 382.6.

Awarded, newly renovated B&B and restaurant. Open year round.

www.redrockerinnc.com (888) 669-5991.

Town Hardware & General Store - Aisles of smiles! Three historic buildings jam-packed with an extensive and eclectic mix of products. Open 7 days/wk. 103 W. State St.

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.

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.



Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center ? and Park Store - 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.

■ 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, pool, beautiful gardens riverside. www.chimneyrockinn.net (800) 625-2003.

The Esmeralda Inn & Restaurant - Chimney Rock, NC. Historic inn, restaurant, Select Registry member, cabin rentals. www.theesmeralda.com (828) 625-2999.

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. www.hickorynutfallsfamilycampground.com (828) 625-4014.

■ LAKE LURE, NC

28 miles southeast of Asheville on US 74A, exit at Milepost 384.7.

The 1927 Lake Lure Inn & Spa - 2771 Memorial Hwy, Lake Lure, NC 28746. www.lakelure.com (828) 625-2525.

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.

■ 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.



Asheville, NC

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.

**The
Destination
That's Like
No Other in
the South**

Contact

36 Montford Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 258-6101 (Mon-Fri)
(828) 258-6129 (Sat-Sun)

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.

877-GO-TO-AVL ■ **ExploreAsheville.com**
(877-468-6285)

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 - *Discover the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Explore our great small towns, what's happening, where to eat, sleep and play. Detailed information available at: 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, & SHOPPING

Asheville Outlets - Real brands. Unreal savings. Shop and save up to 70% off America's most desired brands at close to 75 stores. This pet friendly, open-air center is conveniently located off I-26 at Exit 33, 800 Brevard Rd. www.ShopAshevilleOutlets.com

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.

DID YOU KNOW?

A Migration Route

The Parkway's protected corridor provides a migration route for many species both along ridge tops and as it crosses the region's many creeks and major rivers. Another kind of migration route becomes obvious in the fall as hawks catch the rising warm air currents from the piedmont and sail down the mountains – and above the Parkway – on their migratory route south.



Spring brings showy blooms throughout the region.

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.

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.

Stuart Nye Hand Wrought Jewelry - World famous hand-crafters 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, 2.5 mi. on left across from Asheville Outlets. (828) 665-4242
www.marriott.com/avlbs.

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 - I-40 Exit 37, minutes to Biltmore House, gem mining, river rafting, music, arts & crafts - full hookups, tents & cabins. Reserve now; (800) 562-9015.
www.koa.com/campgrounds/Asheville-west

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 - From Blue Ridge Parkway, exit Hwy 191 North. Open year round. Full hookups, paved sites, laundry, heated pool May 15th-Sept. 15th. 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, cabins, and tent sites. Open year-round. www.campfirelodgings.com (828) 658-8012.

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, 550 Tavern & Grille on-site, 24/7 airport shuttle & full hot breakfast. www.ashevilleclarion.com (828) 684-1213.

Country Inn & Suites Asheville Downtown Tunnel Road - 199 Tunnel Road. 3 miles from Parkway. Newly renovated. 100% non-smoking, indoor pool & spa, free hot breakfast, 1 mile from downtown, 3 miles from Biltmore House. (828) 254-4311.

Country Inn & Suites - I-26 Exit 33. 1 mile from Parkway & NC Arboretum. Free continental breakfast. Close to Asheville Outlets & Biltmore Estate. Outdoor 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.



Contact

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area Offices at
the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center
195 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, NC 28803

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.

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.

**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.**



828-298-5330 ■ **www.blueridgeheritage.com**

Crowne Plaza Tennis & Golf Resort - 1 mi. from downtown, Exit 3A, 5 min. from Parkway, wellness center, spa, golf, tennis, indoor/outdoor pool, zipline, restaurant, lounge, complimentary WiFi, accepts pets. 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. Wire & wireless internet. 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.

Fairfield Inn Asheville Airport - Airport shuttle 24/7, hot breakfast, indoor pool, fitness center. www.marriott.com/avlnc (828) 684-1144.

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.omnihotels.com/grovepark (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 Area - Exit Milepost 393.6, go 2.5 miles north on Highway 191. Free hot breakfast, indoor pool, comp. area shuttle. Close to Biltmore and Asheville Outlets. www.ashevillebiltmore.hamptoninn.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.



Nature walks are a great way to experience the outdoors.



Motorcycle touring is a popular way to experience the Parkway.

Hickory Nut Gap Farm - 9 miles east on 74A. Visit animals, pick berries, picnic, purchase meats, kitchen & butchery! 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 - Exit MP 382, go 3 mi. west on US 70. All-suite hotel, free hot breakfast, evening social (M-Th), comp. area shuttle. Close to downtown Asheville and Biltmore. www.asheville.homewoodsuites.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 382.6. 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.



Proximity to four major rivers makes Asheville a whitewater paradise.

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 (828) 252-6433.

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.

Ramada Inn - 1/2 mile off Parkway at US 74 and I-240 Exit 8. 174 rooms, suites with kitchenettes and Jacuzzis. Playground area, pool, free continental breakfast. (828) 298-9141.

Shoji Spa & Lodge - Asheville's only Japanese outdoor hot tub spa. The Lodge, Loft and Studio at Shoji offer unique, luxurious and cozy accommodations surrounded by the majesty of nature overlooking the Pisgah National Forest and minutes from the Blue Ridge Parkway. Serenity and scenery are paramount, yet only 8 minutes from downtown Asheville. Spectacular views and fireplaces in each unit make this the perfect couple's escape! Spa packages and extended stay discounts available. www.shojiretreats.com (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.

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.

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.

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.

■ 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.

Elijah Mountain Gem Mine - Treasure Hunt of your Life. Keep what you find! Mine for ruby, emerald and more! Open year round. 2120 Brevard Rd. Hendersonville NC. www.ElijahMountain.com (828) 692-6560.

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.



Jump Off Rock, Hendersonville, NC

■ 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.



Contact

Visitor Information Center:
Open 7 days - 362 days a year:
Monday - Friday: 9 - 5
Sat, Sun & Holidays: 10 - 5

For more information and Free Vacation Planner
Call 828-693-9708 • 800-828-4244

Discover Hendersonville, NC

Hendersonville offers cool mountains and warm southern hospitality. Hendersonville is located, 22 miles south of Asheville, and 15 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway, on a plateau of 2200 feet above sea level.

Explore the waterfalls in DuPont State Recreational Forest, the Carl Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse, recreation, festivals, shopping and a variety of accommodations, and restaurants. Summer evening concerts showcase traditional mountain music and dancing Monday nights and oldies rock on Friday nights.

Historic downtown features interesting architecture, delightful shops, museums, and locally owned restaurants.

Henderson County wineries and breweries provide tours and tasting rooms, to sample mountain grown selections. Henderson County is home to Sierra Nevada Brewing Company's east coast brewing operation.

Venture to the many state and national forests with a variety of terrain for hiking or mountain biking. The area offers family activities for children of all ages. Make memories in this charming mountain town.

**It's easy to find
year 'round
activities for the
entire family in
Hendersonville,
North
Carolina!**



800-828-4244 ■ **visithendersonvillenc.org**

Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI)

If you are fascinated with science and the stars, the Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute (PARI) makes for a unique visit while you are in the Asheville area. The PARI site was initially developed by NASA in 1962 as the east coast facility to track satellites and monitor manned space flights. Located in the half-million acre Pisgah National Forest near Brevard and about 30 miles southwest of Asheville, North Carolina, the PARI campus is a well-protected site for astronomy and should remain so for generations to come. The 200-acre campus contains 30 buildings.

Located in the half-million acre Pisgah National Forest near Brevard, off the Blue Ridge Parkway at Milepost 423.3 and about 30 miles southwest of Asheville, North Carolina, Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute is an impressive and unique not-for-profit facility dedicated to providing hands-on educational and research opportunities for a broad cross-section of users in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) disciplines. This world-class research center provides educational opportunities for all levels and ages of students. PARI has offered a hands-on working laboratory to young and seniors alike for more than ten years. Each year PARI excites the scientific imaginations of more than 20,000 people. Visitors to PARI have the opportunity to not only observe science, but to participate in scientific exploration.

Visit
www.pari.edu

*Article courtesy of
www.RomanticAsheville.com*



Visiting PARI

PARI is open to the public every week, 9-4 Monday through Saturday. Visitors are welcome to take self-guided tours, hike three miles of secluded trails, enjoy unsurpassed scenic views from the Parks Observation Deck, picnic in Jo's Cove and visit the Exhibit Gallery with its historic Space Shuttle artifacts, satellites, meteorites and rare gems and minerals.

Docent-led campus tours are available Wednesday at 2 p.m and Saturday at 10 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Reservations requested.

General campus admission is \$6 per person, no charge for children 10 and under.

Complete information about PARI programs and events, location, directions and reservations can be found at www.pari.edu, or call 828-864-5554 with specific questions.



DuPont

State Recreational Forest

DuPont State Recreational Forest contains 10,400 spectacularly beautiful acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina. Elevations range from 2,240 feet at Cascade Lake to 3,620 feet at the peak of Stone Mountain. Little River runs through the forest, with four major waterfalls along its course. The forest also contains five lakes. The largest is 99-acre Lake Julia. The forest has more than 80 miles of roads and trails that are shared by hikers, mountain bikers and equestrians.

Habitats within the forest include Upland oak forests, cove forests, granite domes, riparian areas, mountain bogs, small wildlife openings, lakes, streams and the Little River.



The DuPont State Recreational Forest is located in Henderson and Transylvania Counties between the towns of Hendersonville and Brevard. The forest is open from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.



For more information:

www.ncforestservice.gov/contacts/dsf.htm
or toll free at 828-877-6527.

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.

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. (828) 877-6625. www.cascadelakerecreationarea.com

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.

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. 16 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.

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.

Transylvania County / Brevard, NC



Start your adventure today!

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.

**Land
of Waterfalls**



1-800-648-4523 ■ www.visitwaterfalls.com

423.3 **Beech Gap.** NC 215 Crossover. North 24 miles to Waynesville, south 17 miles to Rosman.

■ ROSMAN, NC

50 miles west of Hendersonville via US 64.

PARI - Former NASA facility open Mon-Sat. Campus tours, scenic views, hiking trails, space artifacts, meteorites, minerals. www.pari.edu (828) 862-5554.

■ HIGHLANDS, NC

Highlands Visitor Center - 108 Main 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 Tree-houses, 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 City 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

■ WAYNESVILLE, NC

27 miles west of Asheville via US 19-23-74, or exit at Milepost 423.2 or 443.1.

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.



Contact

For more information, contact
visitor@highlandschamber.org
or call toll free
1-866-240-2064

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.**



1-866-240-2064

FOOD, LODGING & CAMPING

Andon-Reid Inn Bed & Breakfast - 92 Daisy Ave. MP 440. Award-winning, mountain views, private baths, Jacuzzis, fireplaces, free Wi-Fi, about ½ mile to downtown, 7 rooms. www.andonreidinn.com (828) 452-3089 (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.

The Waynesville Inn Golf Resort & Spa - 176 Country Club Dr.; 5 min. from Pkwy, mountain views, 2 restaurants, 27 holes of golf, pool, spa, WiFi, MP 445. www.thewaynesvilleinn.com (800) 627-6250.

443.1 Balsam Gap. US 74-23 Crossover. East 7 mi. to Waynesville, west 12 mi. to Sylva.

■ BALSAM, NC

Just off Parkway on US 23-74, exit at MP 443.1.

Balsam Mountain Inn - Rest, read, ramble & romp in our mountains! The century-old Balsam Mountain Inn, a National Historic Place, welcomes travelers with 50 cheerful rooms, 100-foot porches, a large library and gracious dining. Breakfast, dinner and Sunday lunch available. At Balsam Gap, MP 443, turn R on US 23/74, drive 100 yds and turn L into Balsam. Follow signs to the Balsam Mountain Inn. www.BalsamMountainInn.net (800) 224-9498.



Please keep dogs on leashes at all overlooks and on trails.

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.moonshinecreek.com. (828) 586-6666.

■ 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.



Contact

Instagram @visitncsmokies
Facebook.com/visitncsmokies
Twitter.com/visitncsmokies
Youtube.com/SmokyMountainsNC

Maggie Valley / Waynesville, NC

46 of the most scenic miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway and authentic Appalachian history, culture, and natural experiences.

For starters, don't miss Cataloochee Valley, the birthplace of the reintroduced elk population in the Great Smoky Mountains. Motor touring enthusiasts will be in hog heaven at America's renowned transportation museum, "Wheels Through Time." Plan ahead in order to catch Haywood's award-winning native bluegrass band, Balsam Range, at one of the annual festivals celebrating the very best parts of genuine Appalachian heritage, like delectable ramps, clogging, and the North Carolina state dog, the Plott Hound.

Take a deep breath and enjoy a cascading waterfall, mountain hike, or pristine waters. The outdoor adventure doesn't slow down in the winter either. Hit the slopes at one of the country's southern most ski resorts, Cataloochee Ski Area. Embark on an agritourism adventure at a local farmer's market or visit one of our diverse u-pick farms. Get active with scenic bicycling, trout fishing, or a round of relaxing golf. Then, after strolling the area's unique shops and galleries, end the day with a fresh farm-to-table dinner and a locally brewed craft beer.

800-334-9036 ■ VisitNCsmokies.com

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 treasures: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherokee Skyway, and Nantahala & Pisgah National Forests. www.visitsmokies.org or (800) 432-4678.

451.2



Waterrock Knob Parking Overlook Visitor Center ? and Park Store . Comfort Station. 4-State view including fine panorama of the Great Smoky Mountains. Trail, with pedestrian overlooks, to the Knob.

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. Escape. Explore. Exhale. Maggie Valley Area Chamber of Commerce, 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 - Seven restored antique hand hewn log cabins with 2-4 bedrooms on 140 acres with a Christmas tree farm. 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.



Contact

**Jackson County
Tourism Development Authority
773 West Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779**

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.**

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 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.

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.

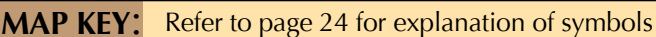
Real Estate Adventures - Begin or end your adventure on the Blue Ridge Parkway in one of our vacation rentals. Open year-round. www.realestateadventures.com (800) 819-9466.

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- 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.



Near Great Smoky Mountains National Park & Tennessee

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.

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.

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.

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. Banquet & meeting facilities, outdoor pool, & guest laundry. Free Wi-Fi. www.chestnuttreeinncherokee.com (828) 497-9181.

DID YOU KNOW?

Gorges State Park

Gorges State Park is set in the midst of plunging waterfalls, rugged river gorges, sheer rock walls and a high concentration of rare species, and exploration of this unique environment often begins at the expansive visitor center with its museum-quality exhibits, augmented by picnic grounds and shelters. Backcountry-style recreation is a hallmark of Gorges with distance hiking, backpack camping, trout fishing, mountain biking and horseback riding welcome in various parts of the rugged interior. The 7,500-acre park incorporates a portion the long-distance Foothills Trail and touches Lake Jocassee at the South Carolina border. Trails and campsites continue to be developed at this relatively new state park.

Fairfield Inn & Suites - 100 rooms & suites across from Harrah's Casino on US 19 north. Continental breakfast, indoor pool, meeting space. (828) 497-0400.

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.

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ 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.

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.



Contact

Cherokee Welcome Center

498 Tsali Blvd.

Cherokee, NC 28719

Email: travel@nc-cherokee.com

Cherokee, NC

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.

**Close by.
Thousands
of years
ago.**

800-438-1601 ■ VisitCherokeeNC.com

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

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 late March - late November: 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 mid April - Late November: 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.

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.

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.

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.

Townsend 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

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

Hidden Creek Cabins - Great Smoky Mountains, creekside, mountain views, hot tubs, fireplaces, 27 unique cabins, rates starting at \$99 per night. www.hiddencreekcabins.com

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.

■ 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.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Blue Ridge Parkway was designed as a recreational motor road, connecting Great Smoky Mountains and Shenandoah National Parks.



RVs are always welcome on the Blue Ridge Parkway!

■ 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. www.gatlinburg.com (800) 766-5396.



Contact

Visitor Center in the Historic
Courthouse
2 Everett Street
chamber@greatsmokies.com

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.

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.

**A great
vacation
destination
that includes a
scenic drive on
The Parkway,
"America's
Favorite
Drive".**

800-867-9246 ■ GreatSmokies.com



CHEROHALA SKYWAY

National Scenic Byway

The Cherohala Skyway was opened and dedicated in 1996. The road has been designated a National Scenic Byway.

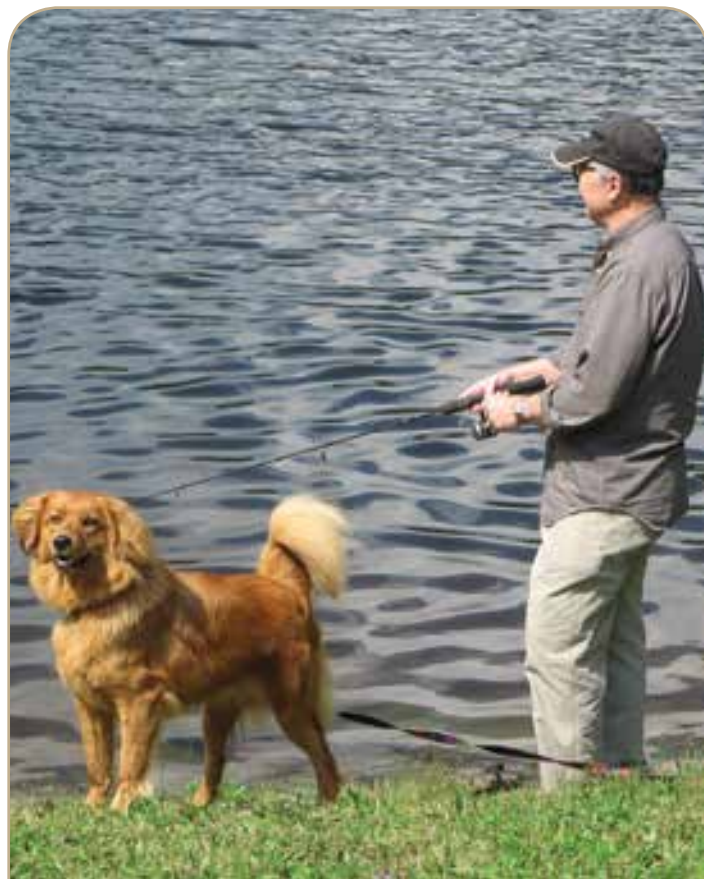
The road cost more than 100 million dollars to construct.

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



A state fishing license is required for fishing in Parkway waters.

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.

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

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 AS A CLASSROOM

Blue Ridge Parkway rangers conduct curriculum-based educational programs for about 30,000 school children in the region each year as part of Parks As Classrooms.

Mountain Rentals of Gatlinburg - More room, more fun & experiences you remember. Guest rewards, concierge, vacation deals. www.MountainChalets.com (877) 701-4278.

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.

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.

■ 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.

■ 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.

■ 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 \$18.95, Children 5-12 \$9.95, 4 & under Free. (423) 337-6616.

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.



Contact

**Sevierville Convention
& Visitors Bureau**
110 Gary Wade Blvd
Sevierville, TN 37862

Sevierville, TN

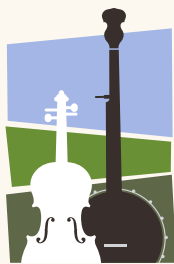
Family Fun in Dolly's Hometown Sevierville, TN

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 12th Annual Bloomin' BBQ & Bluegrass festival (May 20 & 21, 2016), with 50 of the nation's top barbecue cook teams and free concerts from the biggest names in Bluegrass music!

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.

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.

888-738-4378 ■ VisitSevierville.com



blue ridge MUSIC TRAILS of North Carolina



The Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina are nestled within the mountains and foothills of the state, a region known for its spectacular beauty, moderate climate, Cherokee heritage, handmade crafts, small family farms, and, of course, its rich musical traditions. The geographic footprint of the Blue Ridge Music Trails NC comprises twenty-nine counties in the western third of the state.

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.

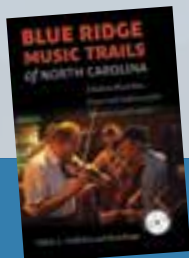
This region has been home to musicians whose artistry has shaped many forms of American music. Today young people in the region are learning these traditions and transforming them into new forms of roots music.



A popular guidebook, *Blue Ridge Music Trails of North Carolina*, was created by the North Carolina Arts Council and published by UNC Press. It is available in gift shops along the Parkway.



The book gives details of the history of the music, profiles of many of the artists and places where the music can be experienced.



BlueRidgeMusicNC.com
#BlueRidgeMusicNC

For more information
you may contact these state tourism offices



Visit NC
15000 Weston Parkway, Cary, NC 27513
800-VISITNC
www.visitnc.com

Virginia 
*is for Lovers*TM

Virginia Tourism Corporation
901 E Byrd Street • Richmond, VA 23219
800-VISITVA
www.virginia.org

THE SOUNDTRACK OF AMERICA
• MADE IN •
TENNESSEE
☆☆☆

Tennessee Travel & Tourism
320 6th Avenue #500 • Nashville, TN 37243-7000
800-GO2-TENN
www.tnvacation.com



The Parkway offers so much beauty any time of the year.

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

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



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



Booker T. Washington

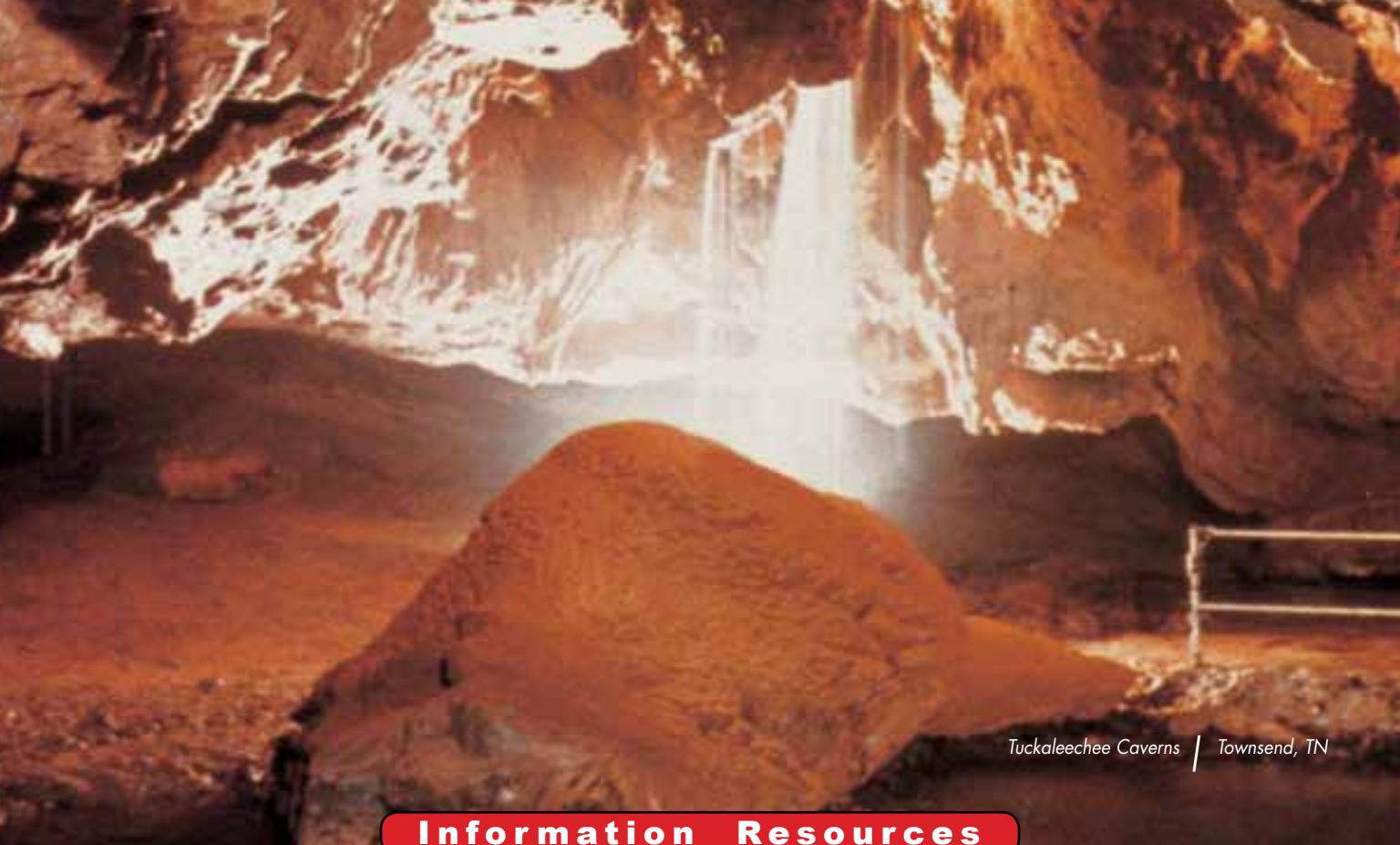
From Slave Cabin to the Hall of Fame

On April 5, 1856, Booker T. Washington was born a slave on the 207-acre farm of

James Burroughs. After the Civil War, Washington became the first principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial School. Later as an adviser, author and orator, his past would influence his philosophies as the most influential African American of his era.

12130 Booker T. Washington Hwy • Hardy, VA 24101

(540) 721-2094 • www.nps.gov/bowa



Tuckaleechee Caverns | Townsend, TN

Information Resources

Blue Ridge Country

Award winning magazine covering history, attractions & outdoor recreation. Great photos & travel tips. Go to www.blueridgecountry.com to learn more.

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

MEMBERSHIP - VOLUNTEERISM - STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION - Non-profit 501(c)(3) Tax ID 58-1854404, membership organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Blue Ridge Parkway -- providing Parkway overlook and vista clearings. FRIENDS funds programs for park visitors, educating and engaging the next generation in volunteerism. FRIENDS invests over 2.3 million dollars of volunteer service to the Parkway annually. For every \$1 received, \$6 is leveraged in volunteer service projects along the Parkway. Join the growing number of FRIENDS supporters--\$30 annually makes 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.

ALONG THE PARKWAY...



Parkway Craft Center
at the Moses Cone Manor
Milepost 294

You'll find opportunities for recreation, hiking, bicycling, picnicking, camping, wildlife viewing and much more.

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.



**Great Smoky
Mountains
Railroad**
Bryson City, NC
Exit at
Milepost
469.1



Go mobile with
the Blue Ridge
Parkway in your
pocket.



**Folk Art
Center**
Asheville, NC
Milepost 382