68TH Edition

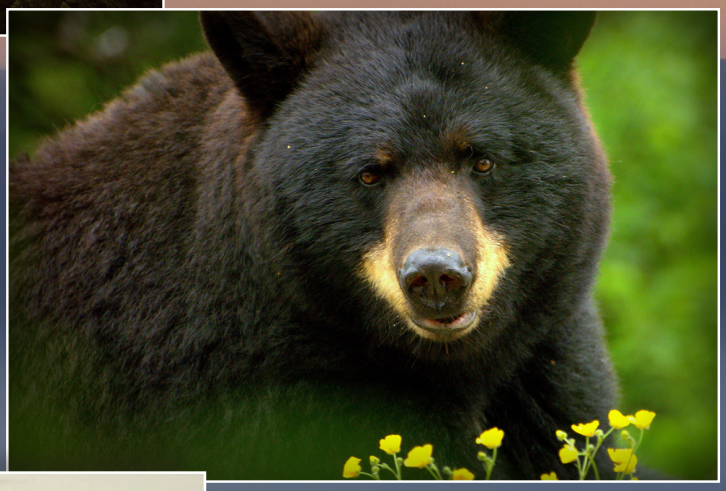
Blue Ridge Parkway

www.blueridgeparkway.org

DIRECTORY & TRAVEL PLANNER

Roanoke Star and Overlook
Roanoke, VA
Exit at Milepost 90 - 121

The Most Visited Unit Of The National Park Service



Grandfather Mountain
Linville, NC
Exit at Milepost 305.1

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

Biltmore
Asheville, NC
Exit at Milepost 388.8

Official Publication of the Blue Ridge Parkway Association

Chimney Rock at Chimney Rock State Park

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Blue Ridge Parkway Travel Planner App

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE DRIVE" AT YOUR FINGERTIPS... 469 miles of scenic places, historic sites, lodging, outdoor recommendations and more delivered directly to your smartphone.

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

The 68th 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 65 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.

Distribution of the Directory & Travel Planner does not imply endorsement by the National Park Service of the businesses or commercial services listed.

Travel-related businesses in the region served by the Blue Ridge Parkway, Shenandoah National Park and Great Smoky Mountains National Park are eligible for membership. This includes hotels, motels, resorts, restaurants, chambers of commerce, merchants associations, banks, public utilities, manufacturers, retail and wholesale businesses, and travel attractions of all kinds.

To join the Blue Ridge Parkway Association go to www.blueridgeparkway.org/join or email: info@blueridgeparkway.org or call (828) 670-1924

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Superintendent's Message

2016 marked an important milestone for the National Park Service. Parks all over the country, including the Blue Ridge Parkway hosted special events, reached out into their communities in person and through social media and shouted from the roof tops to proclaim the excitement that surrounds a 100th birthday. Throughout the year of celebration, a common theme emerged from the visitors to and the communities surrounding the Parkway. PEOPLE LOVE THEIR PARKS.

At the Parkway, we talked to thousands of people over the centennial year that shared stories of how parks had changed their lives. Stories of special milestone moments spent in parks, adventures taken and memories that will last a lifetime. These places are truly special, not just for park staff, but for millions of Americans. We also learned, not surprisingly, that people love the communities along the Parkway.

With the help of the Blue Ridge Parkway Association we have a tremendous opportunity to not only promote "America's Favorite Drive", but also the wealth of diverse communities found along the route. A true Parkway experience is a "drive a little, stop a little" journey with time spent in the towns and cities found here. In many ways our destinies are intertwined.

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. We hope that in the second century of the National Park Service we can work to remain relevant so that our current generation of visitors and many generations of visitors to come will love this place and the communities along its borders.

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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Superintendent 4

Parkway Milepost 5

Northern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Shenandoah National Park Region 25

Blue Ridge Parkway

Ridge Region: *Milepost 0 – Milepost 106* 33

Plateau Region: *Milepost 106 – Milepost 270* 40

Blue Ridge Parkway Map: *Milepost 0 – Milepost 469* 50-51

Highlands Region: *Milepost 270 – Milepost 340* 56

Pisgah Region: *Milepost 340 – Milepost 469* 74

Southern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Great Smoky Mountains National Park Region 89

Index by City/County 98

Mileposts:

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

PARKWAY MILEPOST

THE BLUE RIDGE STATE OF MIND

For visitors in search of novelty and adventure, the Blue Ridge Area provides an unparalleled diversity of experiences. There's so much to see and do that no two visits are ever the same.

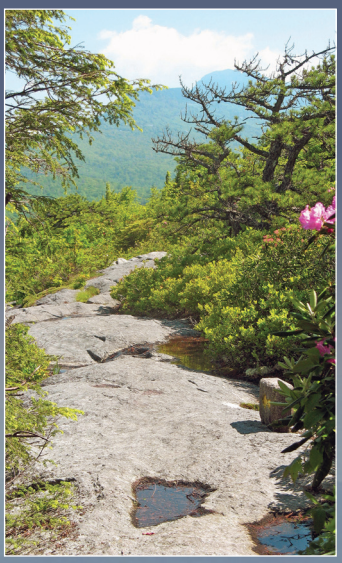
Outstanding scenery and recreational opportunities make the Blue Ridge Parkway one of the most popular units of the National Park system. Winding its way through 469 miles of mountains and meadows, the Parkway connects Shenandoah National Park at milepost 0 in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park at milepost 469 in North Carolina.

Nature lovers will find majestic mountain vistas and scenic drives, outstanding hiking, biking, and equestrian trails, world-class whitewater and waterfalls, excellent campsites and fishing streams, and an incredible diversity of plant and animal life in the region's abundant protected forests and parks.

Those searching for cultural experiences and historical connections will discover a land rich in living traditions of music, craft and culture. 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.

The Parkway offers something for everyone. To make the most of your visit, stop at any of the area's visitor information centers and you will quickly see why it is often called "America's Favorite Drive".



To make the most of your visit, stop at any of the area's visitor information centers to see why the Parkway is often called "America's Favorite Drive" .

The Parkway offers a myriad of opportunities for enjoying all that makes these mountains so special.

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

MP 6

Humpback Rocks

Hike to the famed rock outcropping high on the mountain to enjoy the magnificent view or stroll through the farm museum and imagine scratching out a living in the rocky soil here. Traditional lifestyle demonstrations occur seasonally.

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

See page 34.

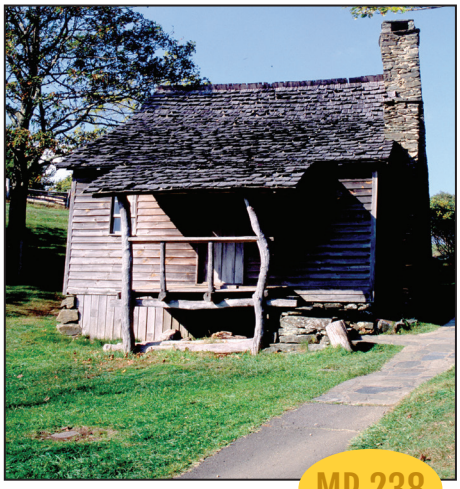
MP 167–176

Rocky Knob & Mabry Mill

The sights and sounds of rural life in Appalachia resonate throughout the Rocky Knob area during the summer and fall. Stop by Mabry Mill to view corn being ground, enjoy cultural demonstrations, or tap your toes to traditional mountain music on Sunday afternoons.

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

See page 45.



MP 238

Doughton Park

Many visitors and locals alike call this area "their favorite Parkway spot". Appalachian history comes to life among the ridgetop meadows and steep mountainsides here. Hike some of the 30 miles of trails or visit Brinegar Cabin to learn of early mountain life. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, Brinegar Cabin, hiking trails, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 59.***

MP 86

Peaks of Otter

Stunning mountain views, cool summer temperatures, and amazing natural resources have enticed visitors to Peaks of Otter for centuries. Climb to the rocky peak of Sharp Top, run your fingers through a black bear's pelt at the Nature Center, or simply relax on the shore of Abbott Lake.

Highlights: *Visitor center, nature center, historic lodge, Polly Wood Ordinary, Johnson Farm, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant.* ***See page 39.***

MP 213

Blue Ridge Music Center

Music is a natural part of these mountains. Traditional folk music and dance has been created and kept alive in this region over the decades. Here visitors can explore the interactive Roots of American Music museum and enjoy live music daily from May through October. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and museum, live folk music and jam sessions, hiking trails.* ***See page 52.***

MP 294

Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

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

Highlights: *Visitor center, craft store, historic estate and grounds, hiking trails, horseback riding.* ***See page 65.***

MP 297

Julian Price Memorial Park

Julian Price established one of the nation's largest insurance companies and purchased this land in the 1930s as a recreational retreat for his employees. Visitors today find opportunities to explore the mountains by camping, picnicking, and canoeing and fishing on Price Lake. **Highlights:** *Hiking trails, canoeing, fishing, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 67.***

MP 304

Linn Cove Viaduct

The rugged slopes of Grandfather Mountain challenged engineers as they completed this last section of the Parkway in 1987. A world renowned marvel of engineering the viaduct was painstakingly designed to protect the ecologically sensitive slopes of the mountain. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, historic architecture/ parkway design, hiking trails.* ***See page 68.***

MP 316

Linville Falls

The Linville River flows from its headwaters high on the steep slopes of Grandfather Mountain and cascades through two falls as it begins a nearly 2,000 foot descent through this rugged and spectacularly beautiful gorge. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, waterfalls, hiking trails, campground, picnic area.* ***See page 71.***

MP 331

The Museum of North Carolina Minerals

Discover the area's rich mineral resources and mining heritage with hands-on, interactive exhibits to explore the creation of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the region's wide variety of minerals.
Highlights: *Visitor center and museum.*

MP 364

Craggy Gardens

These high elevation summits are home to spectacular rhododendron displays in May and early June, and to a unique forest of gnarled and twisted trees that have been shaped by harsh weather. **Highlights:** *Visitor center, hiking trails, rhododendron blooms, picnic area.* ***See page 76.***

MP 382

Folk Art Center

Tucked inside the Folk Art Center you will find a National Park Service visitor information counter as well as a large array of regional crafts created by members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Craft demonstrations provide the chance to meet the artists at work. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and folk art exhibition hall, hiking trails.*

MP 384

Parkway Visitor Center in Asheville

Watch an orientation video and learn how to make the most of your visit to the Parkway and region at this visitor center. View exhibits featuring the unique Parkway design and construction, the natural and cultural history, and recreational opportunities of the Blue Ridge. **Highlights:** *Visitor center and park film, National Heritage Area information and hiking trails.*

Photo by Joshua Moore

MP 408

Mount Pisgah

Reach new heights in the high country of Mount Pisgah, the birthplace of forestry. Hike historic trails, spend the night at the Parkway's highest campground or lodge, and be sure to catch the sunrise. **Highlights:** *Historic lodge, hiking trails, campground, picnic area, restaurant.*

Photo by David Smart

MP 451

Waterrock Knob

It feels as if you can touch the clouds at the southernmost and highest elevation visitor center on the Parkway. Come prepared for cooler weather and spend time enjoying mountain views that stretch to the horizon. For an unforgettable experience, pause to watch a sunrise or sunset. **Highlights:** Visitor center, hiking trails. ***See page 85.***

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/Plan Your Visit/Eating & Sleeping for availability of food and lodging

	Milepost	Visitor Center	Exhibits	Programs	Restrooms	Picnic Areas	Camping
Humpback Rocks	5.8	H	H	HP	H	X	
Otter Creek	60.9			H	HP		HP
James River	63.8	H	H	X	X	X	
Peaks of Otter*	86	H	H	H	H	HP	HP
Explore Park VC	115	H	H		H		
Roanoke Mountain	120.4			H	H	HP	
Rocky Knob	169	H		HP	HP	HP	HP
Mabry Mill **	176.1		HP	HP	HP		
Groundhog Mountain	189				HP	H	
Blue Ridge Music Ctr	213	H	H	H	H		
Cumberland Knob	217.5		HP		HP	HP	
Doughton Park	241	H	HP	HP	HP	HP	HP
NW Trading Post	258.6				H		
Jeffress Park	272				HP	HP	
Cone Park	294.1	H	H	H	H		
Price Park	297.1			H	HP	HP	HP
Linn Cove Viaduct	304.4	H	H		H		
Linville Falls	316.4	H	H	X	HP	HP	HP
Minerals Museum	331	H	H	H	H		
Crabtree Campground	339.5				HP	HP	HP
Craggy Gardens	364.6	H	H	X	X	HP	
Folk Art Center	382	H	H	H	H	H	
Parkway Visitor Ctr.	382	H	H	H	H	H	
Mt Pisgah*	408.6			HP	HP	HP	HP
Waterrock Knob	451.2	H	H	H	H	HP	

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 differs from most and 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.

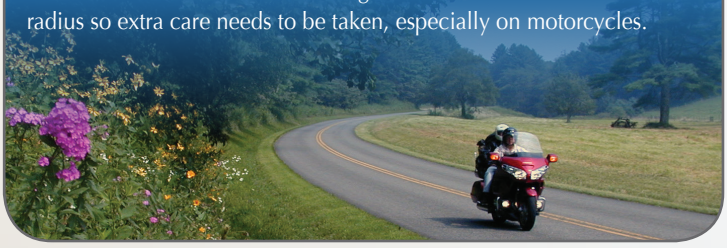
UNFORGIVING ROAD SHOULDERS – The Parkway's road shoulders are narrow in places and the meadows or forest edges grow close to the pavement. This is part of the beauty of the drive but may require some extra attention.

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 distractions 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 lay 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, 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 10.

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

LAKES, RIVERS & 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 picnic areas until 9:00 PM, and in campgrounds by registered campers.

- 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.

Northern Flying Squirrel: *Primarily nocturnal, these small mammals live in high elevation spruce-fir forests.*

- 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.

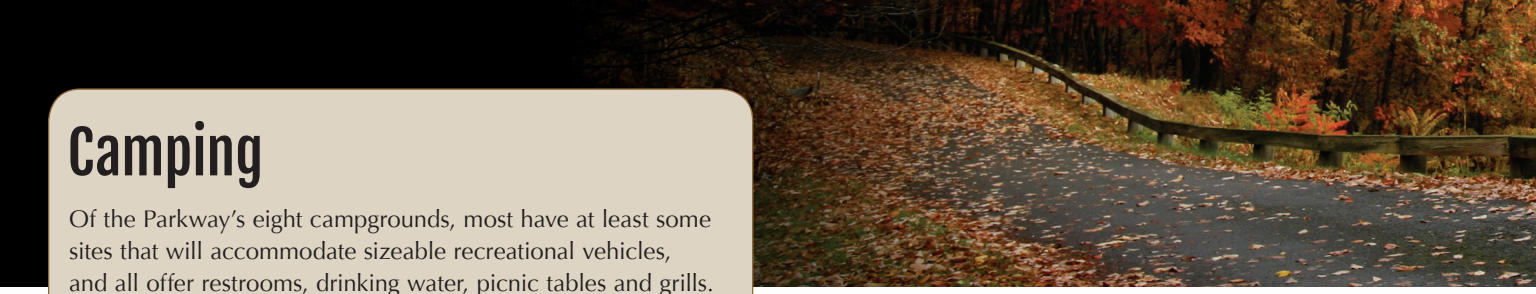
- Rabies can be transmitted by most wild animals. Animals in the park should not be treated as pets or lured close enough to feed or touch. If a wild animal approaches you, it could be a sign of serious illness. Please tell a Ranger.

- All plants on the Parkway are protected. Many of our native wildflowers in the Blue Ridge are threatened by illegal harvesting. The most frequently illegally harvested plant is Galax. The large, round, shiny evergreen leaves of this plants are taken on a large scale for use in flower arrangements. You can help stop this poaching - if you see anyone collecting plants on the Parkway, report it to a Ranger.

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 all campgrounds except Crabtree Falls**.** All campgrounds have "first come, first served" sites. As a general rule, demand is higher on weekends and holidays. To make a reservation, visit ***www.recreation.gov*** or call toll-free ***(877) 444-6777***. Showers facilities are available at Mt. Pisgah campground. Go to the Plan Your Visit / Eating & Sleeping page at *www.nps.gov/blri* for camping fee information. **Campground improvements will occur this summer that may close some sections of several campgrounds. Make your reservations early and call ahead to check on the availability of any one particular campsite**

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 seaonally at a number of other locations.

Go to Plan Your Visit / Basic Information / Operating Hours & Seasons at *www.nps.gov/blri*

Peaks of Otter

Pisgah Inn • Tree Tops

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.

Firewood

Tree-killing insects and diseases, brought in on firewood, threaten park forests. Because of this threat, pending guidelines may require campers to use heat-treated bundled firewood that displays a seal issued by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or a state department of agriculture. Several on and off parkway visitor centers and stores sell certified firewood from May through November.

Campers may also use downed wood collected inside the park for campfires. Stop at a campground kiosk to learn more.

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.

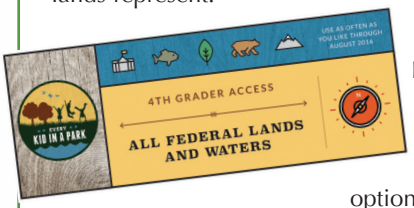
Farmfest at Humpback Rock

Overmountain Victory Celebration

Roanoke Mountain Music

Every Kid In The Park

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!

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.

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.

HIKING

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.

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***

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 offered free of charge by local Mid-Day Mountain Musicians, Noon - 4 PM daily. May through October. Milepost 213.

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

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

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*

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.*

North Carolina's Mountains-to-Sea Trail

The Mountains-to-Sea Trail (MST) stretches 1150 miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to the Outer Banks. In the North Carolina mountains, much of the MST parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway. To find the trail, look for markers along the Parkway with a hiker symbol and a white circle blaze.

2017 is the 40th anniversary of the MST, and you can help celebrate at many special events and hikes. To see a complete listing visit: mountainstoseatrail.org/mst40th/

To volunteer contact:

Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail
PO Box 10431
Raleigh, NC 27605
919-825-0297
mountainstoseatrail.org

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.

WHAT'S PEAKING ALONG THE PARKWAY?

Many questions posed 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 changes of seeing the Blue Ridge in its autumn glory. Typically, the Parkway experiences the much anticipated change in fall foliage around the middle of October. Many factors contribute to variations in when and where colors will peak, with moisture throughout the year and the colder temperatures being key factors. In a park that is 500 miles north to south and varies over 5,000 feet in elevation, the best plan for witnessing fall color is to drive some distance on the Parkway, changing elevations and north-south orientation. A little planning in mid to late October will yield at least some of the spectacular color that we're famous for.

Monarch Butterflies

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

Wildflowers

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

Fall leaf guide

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

PARKWAY BY THE SEASONS

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 occuring even when the Piedmont has pleasant conditions. Always be prepared for fast-approaching winter weather conditions and expect parts of the road to be closed due to ice and snow.

Check for weather or construction-related closures updated daily by Blue Ridge Parkway staff. http://go.nps.gov/parkway-realtime-map

SHOWY BLOOMS

A Quick Guide to some flowers & shrubs on the Parkway

Shrubs

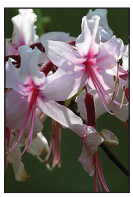
Catawba Rhododendron
(Rhododendron catawbiense):
A medium shrub with pink to purple flowers growing above 3000 feet on exposed ridges.
June – Early July

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

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

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

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



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

Flowers

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

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

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

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

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.
July – August

OTHER COMMON FLOWERS

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

THE BLACK BEAR

A Blue Ridge Success Story

The natural history of the Blue Ridge is filled with intriguing stories of habitat, migration, varied ecosystems, stories of loss and stories of success. These natural history stories are your avenue to a deeper understanding of the biodiversity of the southern Appalachian mountains.

For many visitors, a Parkway trip is not complete without a glimpse of the largest mammal still found here, the black bear (Ursus americanus). In both Virginia and North Carolina, bear populations are healthy and on the rise – a great natural history success story. While some of the region's other mammals have declined in population or disappeared entirely over the centuries, bears have tenaciously held on to their Blue Ridge habitat, being comfortable in the rockiest and steepest terrain as well as being adaptable and opportunistic, especially when it comes to eating.

Photo by Harold Blackwood

The black bear's preferred menu is impressive and ranges from grasses, roots and berries to insects and grubs. They also eat fish and small animals, including frogs, salamanders, and field mice. Many early spring plants and herbs become their main diet while yellow jacket nests, termites, honey and wild cherries carry them through the summer months. Fattening up for the winter means that foraging on the fall nut crop may literally be a matter of survival.

Black bears do not truly hibernate, but sleep deeply throughout much of the winter, occasionally venturing out or stirring within the den. The sows give birth during the winter and by spring, the cubs are ready to explore the world for the first time. Their survival depends on the skill of the mother who teaches them what to eat, how to forage, and how to recognize and avoid danger.

Seeing a bear is exciting and the highlight of any visit to a National Park. However, while visitors come and go, bears and other wildlife live here. Your actions can have a direct and lasting impact on the health and behavior of these magnificent animals. Despite "DO NOT FEED THE BEARS" signs, some visitors continue to lure bears closer for a quick photograph by using scraps of food. Please observe the "DO NOT FEED THE BEARS" signs you see posted for your safety and that of the bears. Take care to properly store food while camping and dispose of food waste.

Bears are creatures of habit and quickly lose their natural fear of people. Once a bear learns to forage near people, it is usually too late to discourage them and all too often "a fed bear becomes a dead bear".

Still intrigued by bears?

Stop by the Peaks of Otter Nature Center at milepost 86 to touch a black bear's pelt, feel its claws and examine its large teeth and small skull. The Nature Center and most visitor centers on the Parkway are open seasonally, May through October.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Wood frog

Red Salamander

While many people think of the Blue Ridge Parkway as just a motor road, it is also a place of varied and significant natural resources and is world renowned for its biological diversity. The Parkway covers a wide range of habitats, so the plants growing on a mountain summit at the park's northern end may be quite different from those on a summit at the southern end. Some of these habitats are exceptionally rare. Rock outcrops at high elevations contain a fragile group of alpine species that were pushed southward during glacial times and eventually left stranded on the southern mountains. Grassy balds are treeless grassy meadows that occur below timberline on ridgetops in the southern Appalachian Mountains. These meadows, once grazed by native animals such as bison and elk in centuries past, are now maintained by park biologists because of the unique habitat they provide.

A Parkway visit may seem incomplete without the glimpses of white tailed deer, wild turkey, and perhaps a chance to see the elusive black bear. It may be thought of by many as just a road, linking Shenandoah and the Great Smokies but without a doubt, it is one of the most diverse places on earth. As park biologists continue to inventory and monitor the amazing diversity of life contained within the park, the numbers of plant and animal species found here continue to grow.

Keeping Music Traditions Alive

"Where can I go to hear music… good music… authentic mountain music?" This is a common question from many Parkway visitors and the options may seem limitless. The people of this region have created and continue to keep alive some of the richest traditions of music and dance in the nation. Parkway visitors can either schedule or "stumble upon" music virtually anywhere.

You can find music in a variety of places on the Parkway, especially on weekends.

- The Blue Ridge Music Center (Milepost 213) is dedicated to the subject — Mid-Day Mountain Music occurs on a daily basis and weekend concerts are held in the outdoor amphitheater. "The Roots of American Music" is an interactive exhibition that tells the compelling story of the region's rich musical heritage.
- Sunday afternoon music and dancing at Mabry Mill (Milepost 176) has a long tradition as do the Sunday evening concerts at Roanoke Mountain Picnic Area (Milepost 120).
- Monthly concerts are held at Humpback Rocks Farm (Milepost 6) during the summer.

Music becomes an important part of the story and the visitor experience. Serious followers of regional music can explore Virginia's Crooked Road Music Trail or the Blue Ridge Music Trail in North Carolina (thecrookedroad.org and blueridgemusic.org), leading them to towns and venues throughout the region.

So, the answer to the question "Where can I go to hear music?" is up to you. Do your research, check local tourism organizations, or your favorite music website. Bring a blanket, a chair and perhaps an instrument and follow the sounds of Blue Ridge music!

Grassy Bald at Craggy Gardens

MANAGING PARKWAY VIEWS
More than Meets the Eye

Three Ridges Overlook in Virginia, ***before.***

Three Ridges Overlook in Virginia, ***after***

Skilled arborists selectively restore designed vista.

Managing the scenic beauty of the Blue Ridge Parkway is a complex and important task. 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 viewshed within 469 mile-long corridor.

Studies through the years consistently cite 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.

Park managers are working to identify potential vistas for restoration keeping in mind the original design intent of the Parkway, while also addressing natural resource protection in this biologically diverse park.

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 viewshed 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.

North Carolina High Country, ***before.***

North Carolina High Country, ***after***

CONSERVATION TRUST FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Helping to save the Parkway's scenic views, clear mountain streams, healthy forests, picturesque farms, hiking trails and cultural heritage.

The Parkway may look simple on a map – a long, thin scenic roadway meandering through the mountains. But keeping the magnificent views extending to the horizon as they were envisioned by Parkway designers is a challenge that will continue for years to come.

Strong and coordinated efforts are vital to meeting this challenge. Formal and informal partners provide essential services, staffing, funding and innovative solutions to help manage this linear park and the corridor through which it passes. Most of the spectacular natural lands within view of the Parkway's 469 miles are outside of the park boundary and are privately owned. In some areas protected land along the Parkway is less than 100 feet wide on either side of the road.

Effective protection of its scenic beauty requires one organization to coordinate efforts with local land trusts, the National Park Service and other public agencies, and to promote increased public and private funding to ensure the Parkway's protection. In 1996, the Governor's Year of the Mountains Commission designated Conservation Trust for North Carolina (CTNC) to coordinate these efforts in North Carolina.

Since then, CTNC and seven nonprofit land trust partners have permanently protected over 62,000 acres along the Parkway. CTNC has directly protected over 33,000 acres in 62 locations. Highlights include Asheville's 17,500-acre drinking water supply watershed and Waynesville's 8,000-acre watershed. CTNC has conveyed 22 properties totaling nearly 1,600 acres to the National Park Service for inclusion in the Parkway's official boundary, for all to enjoy.

CTNC's conservation partners include five local land trusts that protect lands along the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and two national conservation groups. Visit ***www.ctnc.org*** to learn more and make a donation to help us continue protecting the integrity of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Collecting apples at the Altapass Orchard

- CTNC celebrated its 25th Anniversary in 2016 – coinciding with the 100th anniversaries of the National Park Service and NC's State Parks.
- In August 2016, CTNC, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and The Conservation Fund transferred over 5,000 acres of newly protected land around Waterrock Knob to the Parkway, creating a new recreation destination near its southern terminus.
- CTNC owns nine properties totaling 370 acres awaiting conveyance to National Park Service for inclusion in the Parkway. At least seven of those will be donated to the Park Service.
- Through a partnership between CTNC and the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, the NC Youth Conservation Corps has completed significant projects along the Blue Ridge Parkway in Watauga, Caldwell, and Avery Counties between Mileposts 260 and 305 including trail maintenance on the Boone Fork Trail, Green Knob Trail, Rough Ridge Trail, and Tanawha Trail, and construction and repairs to historic fencing at the Julian Price Picnic Area, Moses Cone Manor and Sims Creek Overlook.
- In 2015, CTNC purchased a conservation easement protecting the historic Orchard at Altapass at Milepost 328. The orchard is open May 1st to October 31stevery year.
- CTNC protected nearly two miles of the Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail where it crosses the Parkway and drops down the Blue Ridge escarpment. The trail can be accessed at milepost 326, across the road from Heffner Gap Overlook.
- Working with TravelstorysGPS, CTNC developed a mobile app that guides you along hikes on properties protected by CTNC. For information on the trails and the app visit www.travelstorys.com/explore-tours and join the adventure!
- Working collaboratively, five land trusts have protected more than 80 properties totaling nearly 70,000 acres along the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina. For a guide to land trust protected properties visit www.protecttheblueridgeparkway.org
- CTNC and its partner land trusts, Blue Ridge Conservancy, Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina, Piedmont Land Conservancy, Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, The Conservation Fund and The Nature Conservancy and 20 other local land trusts across the state need your support to continue saving the places you love!

REMAKING HISTORY AT
Moses H. Cone Memorial Park

Each year, hundreds of thousands of visitors enjoy Moses H. Cone Memorial Park at milepost 294 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Here they can explore history and appreciate a magnificent landscape as they stroll around Bass Lake, ride horseback or hike the carriage trails, or tour Flat Top Manor.

The 3,500-acre estate was once home to Moses H. Cone and his wife, Bertha. A leader in the textile industry during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Cone was not only a successful entrepreneur; he was an inquisitive gentleman farmer who experimented with agriculture. Beginning in 1897, he and Bertha carefully created an impressive country retreat featuring a 23-room house, 25 miles of carriage trails, lakes, apple orchards, fields, and forests. Their vision was influenced by a great regard for the natural landscape. The estate's inclusion in the National Park System in 1949 solidified the site as a place for all to enjoy.

The National Park Service (NPS) strives to care for this site, but with a limited budget and staffing, the estate is in critical need of repairs and maintenance. The signs can be seen in crumbling woodwork at Flat Top Manor and overgrown vistas on the carriage trails. That is why the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, the primary nonprofit fundraising organization for the Blue Ridge Parkway, is committed to raising $3 million to help preserve and rehabilitate the home and landscape to enrich visitors' experiences.

A first step in protecting Flat Top Manor is to install a fire suppression system in the three-story historic structure. In 2016, the Blue Ridge Parkway received Centennial Challenge funding from Congress for this project. The matching financial support required by Congress is being provided by the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation.

This Centennial Challenge project is one of many plans for the estate, which will allow the NPS to better tell the stories of the Cones introduction of denim production to the mills in Greensboro, North Carolina, the Cone sisters' interest in collecting works by little-known artists of the time including Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse, and the lifestyle enjoyed by the Cones and their guests.

Funds are being raised to:

- Partially restore the landscape adjacent to the manor house.
- Enhance the interpretation of the landscape, the garden, and outdoor recreation areas adjacent to the manor house.
- Prevent continued deterioration at Flat Top Manor by replacing exterior wooden components, including doors and windows, replacing the roof, and ensuring structural integrity.
- Repair historic stone walls.
- Recreate the experience of the carriage trails by repairing the surfaces and removing encroaching vegetation to restore vistas.
- Rehabilitate and care for original plantings on the estate.
- Expand parking areas.
- Construct new trails and sidewalks.

How you can help! *Information on how you can contribute to this and other Foundation efforts, please see page 21*

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

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

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.

Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation

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

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.

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

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."

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

Explore
Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail

Hiking guidebooks | Volunteer trail crews | Stewardship

Ways to Help:

- Become a member; volunteer to maintain trail; hike the MST; purchase a NC MST license plate

photo by Mitzi Gellman

mountainstoseatrail.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

Eastern National
Serving the Visitors to America's National Parks and Other Public Trusts

Shop | Visitor Services | Passport Cancellations

Ways to Help:

- Shop at 14 Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center stores to support the park and its programs, enrich your park visit and multiply your memories!

easternnational.org

Each Blue Ridge Parkway visitor center and store has a different story to tell with uniquely themed product collections. Sample Southern Appalachian crafts and lifeways, the history of American music, Victorian manor life, a waterfall gateway to wilderness or high-elevation mountaintops, collect National Park Service Passport stamps and more.

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

Doughton Park **MP 241**
Moses Cone Memorial Park **MP 294**
Linn Cove Viaduct **MP 304**
Linville Falls **MP 316**
Minerals Museum **MP 331**
Craggy Gardens **MP 364**
Folk Art Center **MP 382**
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***

About the THE BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY

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

The majority of the Parkway in Virginia runs through the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests, along mountain crests into the Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests in North Carolina. This National Scenic Byway is a two-lane road with a maximum speed limit of 45 mph. For those who enjoy road trips and nature, traveling the Parkway is not to be missed.

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
US 441	MP 469.1	less than 5 miles south

A Parkway trip can be the opposite of hectic daily life. People are busy, inundated with information and connected as much as possible. We often rely on secondary sources rather than personal experiences. A Parkway experience defies much of this. Slow and relaxed, the Parkway provides sunshine, mountain gusts and up-close views of the Blue Ridge region.

You will hug the crest of the world's oldest mountain range as you wind through the coves and forest slopes of southern Appalachia. The breathtaking views stamp an unforgettable impression on your mind.

It has been said, "Too many places we see in America today look like too many places we see in America today." Interstates, cities and subdivisions can look alike no matter where you are. But America's National Parks are each unique, with remarkable experiences unattainable anywhere else.

The landscapes along the Virginia portion of the Parkway differ from those in North Carolina. A glimpse of traditional early days of settlement is visible in Virginia, with recreated farms near Humpback Rocks and Mabry Mill further south. In North Carolina, Linville Falls and the Cradle of Forestry highlight mountain forests and natural wonders.

In addition to stops along the Parkway, the road runs near historic towns from top to bottom for accessing the areas' heritage and culture. The Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters are located in Asheville, N.C. – a city well loved by literary figures Carl Sandburg, Thomas Wolfe and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Exploration of their homes and haunts presents an interesting side trip.

The Parkway inspires pride, appreciation and responsibility. Whether enjoying an afternoon drive or visiting for the first time, pride is important to protecting the Parkway. Appreciation may be found in the streams, trails, wildlife, historic structures, cool air, vistas or absolute serenity. Responsibility lies in the stewardship required of all visitors to National Park sites. This place can only stay as we know it with community, regional and individual help. Whatever your Parkway experience, respect other visitors and wildlife and keep to the trails to enjoy all of it.

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

AMERICA'S BYWAYS™

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

Facilities and Services

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

- Most facilities and services are available April through 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, enjoy the panoramic views from overlooks, hike to peaks and waterfalls, fish 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***

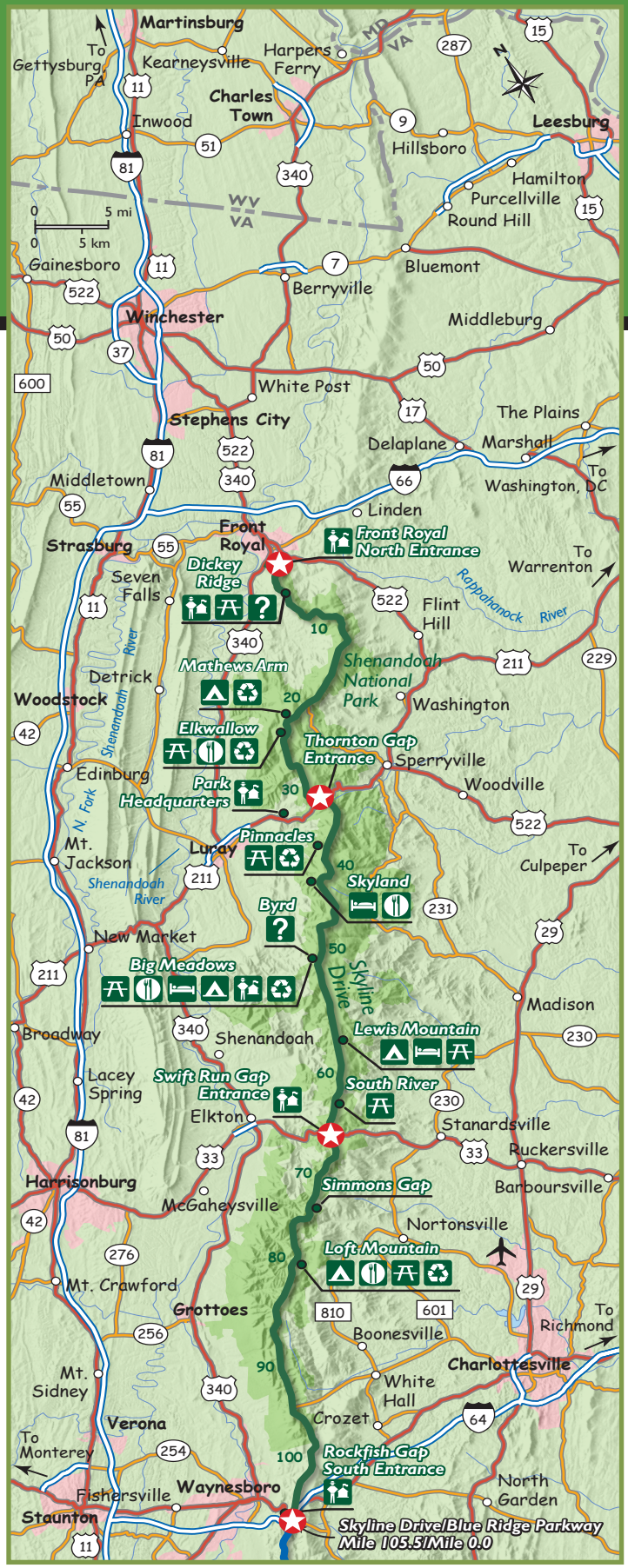
A LITTLE HISTORY

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 National Park Region:

Northern Gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway

Near Skyline Drive & Shenandoah National Park

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.

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.

SHENANDOAH COUNTY, VA

Venture off the Pkwy and experience OUR Rush Hour. Scenic drives, hiking, paddling, history, vineyards, breweries, restaurants, caverns. There's only one Shenandoah County in the Shenandoah Valley! www.VisitShenandoahCounty.com (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.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Winchester, VA Region

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

The Winchester area offers a true hub for visitors to 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.

Get the inside scoop before visiting the Winchester area with articles like "16 Local Spots for Dining alfresco," "Top 10 Must-Do List for Fall," "8 Totally Unexpected Finds" and more at www.VisitWinchesterVA.com/blog.

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

Open 7 days a week, 9am-5pm

Contact
Winchester-Frederick Co. Visitors Center & Gift Shop
1400 S. Pleasant Valley Rd.
Winchester, VA 22601

877-871-1326 ■ www.visitwinchesterva.com

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.VisitLurayPage.com (888) 743-3915.

ATTRACTIONS

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

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Allstar Lodging Vacation Cabins - 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 - Explore an underground world of wonders that has been thrilling visitors for over 90 years. It's Virginia's only cavern with elevator service! Attractions include 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.

Shenandoah County, VA

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

Strasburg | Toms Brook | Woodstock | Edinburg | Mount Jackson | New Market

Just a short distance West of Skyline Drive, enjoy the charm and beauty of six historic small towns situated along route 11 like pearls on a string. Each with its unique charm and personality, you are certain to find a friendly face, great local art, stories, antiques and relics of Shenandoah's past.

During your stay, experience the best of outdoor recreation: hiking and biking, river floats, fishing and camping. Take a scenic drive down country roads to find vineyards and farms. You may sip local wines and brews and enjoy the freshest flavors of our agricultural communities through farm-to-fork dining. However you choose to enjoy the valley, Shenandoah County has so much to offer:

- History and Genealogy
- Extreme sports and leisurely strolls
- Unique attractions and artisan studios
- Charming Bed and Breakfasts and rustic camping
- Agricultural traditions with the freshest dining and markets

Contact

Shenandoah County Tourism
600 North Main Street
Suite 101
Woodstock, VA 22664

888-367-3965 ■ www.VisitShenandoahCounty.com

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.

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.

Front Royal, VA

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

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

800-338-2576 ■ www.discoverfrontroyal.com

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

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, 50/30A. www.shenandoahhills.com (540) 948-4186.

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.

Luray & Page County, VA

Historic Culture

Friendly Atmosphere

Natural Beauty

'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.

Call for your free complete getaway planner.

Contact

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

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

HARRISONBURG, VA

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

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

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

GROTTOES, VA

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

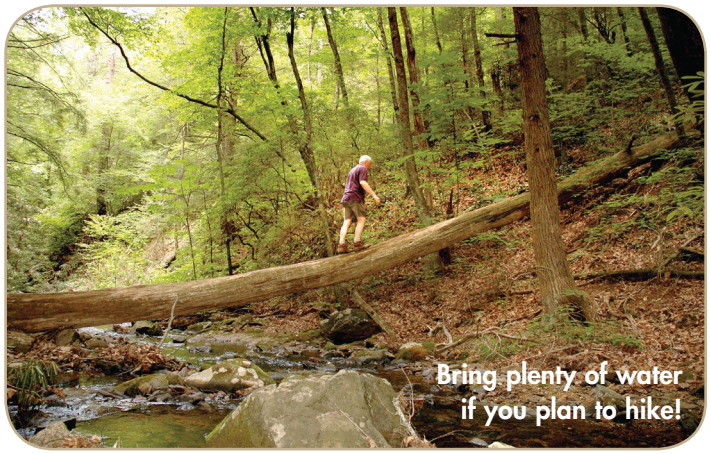
Grand Caverns - America's oldest continuously operated show cave & voted #2 in U.S. by Parade magazine. Experience nature's handiwork. Open daily. www.grandcaverns.com (888) 430-CAVE.

66.3 **Hightop Mountain Parking**, at an elevation of 2,637 feet, is on the west side of the Drive and provides access to the Appalachian Trail and outstanding views on the summit of Hightop Mountain.

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

73.2 **Simmons Gap Ranger Station** personnel are responsible for the southern portion of the park. Stop if you need assistance from the Rangers.

77.8 **Rockytop Overlook** provides a good view of the wild canyon country of the Big Run watershed.



Harrisonburg, VA

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

Nestled in the heart of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, our history and hospitality are as ever-present as the beautiful mountains. It's easy to reach, making it a perfect choice for a long weekend or a weeklong vacation. Harrisonburg is a vibrant community with a diverse population, an amazing food scene and rich in arts & culture. The mountains and the rolling hills are a playground for outdoor recreation lovers. Hailed by National Geographic Society as one of America's Top Mountain Bike Towns, it's the perfect gateway for heart pumping adventure. Harrisonburg is alive with music, art and history. There is much to explore from nearly 80 locally-owned restaurants to locally-owned shops, to one-of-a-kind museums. The vibrancy and diversity are evident in the local businesses, restaurants and many special events including a summer film and music series, live performances, cultural festivals, college & local sporting events and beer, wine and music festivals.

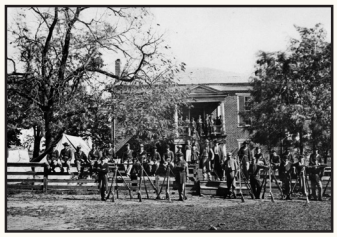
Contact

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

(540) 432-8935 ■ www.visitharrisonburgva.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

Visit our 2 locations - 610 E Main Street, on the downtown mall in Charlottesville, and 5791 Three Notch'd Rd., Crozet at old train depot. For hours & directions, www.visitcharlottesville.org, (877) 386-1103.

ATTRACTIONS

Barboursville Vineyards & Historic Ruins - 30 min E of Pkwy, Rt 33 at Rt 20. Tastings daily at Virginia's most honored winery, fine dining at Palladio Restaurant. Details & Calendar of Events. www.barboursvillewine.com Reservations (540) 832-7848.

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

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

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

CROZET, VA

10 miles East of Parkway, Exit Milepost 0

Albemarle Tourism & Adventure 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 mtn 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.

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.

Blue Ridge Parkway Ridge Region:

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

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

STAUNTON, VA

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

ATTRACTIONS

Augusta Expo Event Center - Fishersville VA. 9 miles from MP 0 at I-64W exit 91. Events, concerts and festivals year round. www.augustaexpo.org (540) 337-2552.

Frontier Culture Museum - Bringing the Past to Life. A living history museum. 17th, 18th, & 19th century working farms. 1290 Richmond Rd, Staunton. www.frontiermuseum.org (540) 332-7850.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

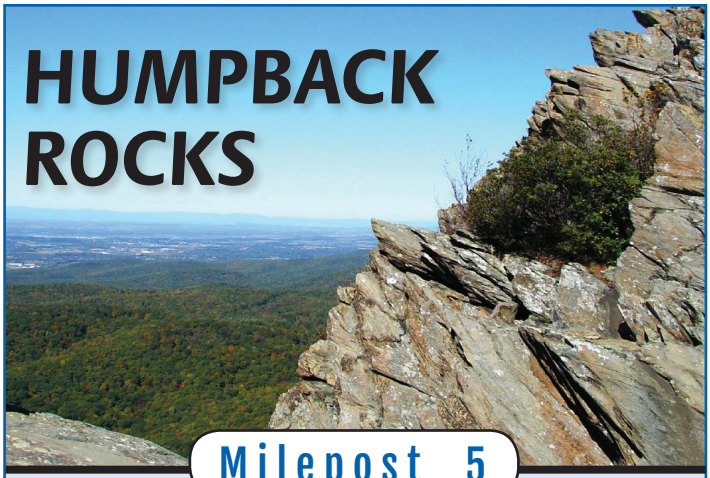
Hampton Inn Staunton - 15 mins from MP 0, I-64W to I-81S, exit 220. Luxury rooms, free hot breakfast, fitness room, outdoor pool. HHonors. (540) 886-7000.

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

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

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.

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) 943-5187.

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

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

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

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

Holiday Inn Express - 20 Windigrove Drive. 5 miles W. MP 1. Great service and good rooms with breakfast, indoor pool and Jacuzzi. Call now: (540) 932-7170.

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, Lovingston, 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 ? and Park Store. Mountain farm exhibit (Milepost 5.8), Picnic area, comfort station (Milepost 8.8). 800 acres.

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

13.5 **Reids Gap.** Route 664.

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

WINTERGREEN, VA

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

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

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

LOVE, VA

West of Parkway, exit at Milepost 16.

Royal Oaks Cabins - Love, VA. Exit at Milepost 16, 500 ft west on Route 814. Royal Oaks Cabins Store, deli, gifts - "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; dinner is available for inn guests with advance reservations. www.sugartreeinn.com (540) 377-2197.

MONTEBELLO, VA

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

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

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

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

BUENA VISTA, VA

Milepost 45.6 - US 60 Crossover West to Buena Vista.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

TUNNELS

Because of the generally higher and more rugged elevation of the mountains in North Carolina, there are twenty six tunnels on the Parkway in that state, but only one in Virginia.

Nelson County, VA

Experience the Sunrise Side of the Blue Ridge

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

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

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

Contact

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

434-263-7015 ■ www.nelsoncounty.com

LEXINGTON, BUENA VISTA & ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY, VA

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 (540) 463-3777.

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, trails and scenic roadside cascade

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

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

63.7 **James River Visitor Center and Park Store.** Exhibits.

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

Dinosaur Kingdom II - 5781 S. Lee Hwy. Natural Bridge VA. Dinos versus Yankee soldiers during the civil war. www.dinosaurkingdom2.com (540) 464-2253.

Natural Bridge Zoological Park - Discover the largest & most complete collection of birds & animals in the state of Virginia. Ride an African elephant, stand next to & feed the giraffes, gaze into the eyes of a huge white tiger. Feed over 300 tame beautiful parakeets in our huge new parakeet landing aviary. Enjoy monkeys, mandrills & gibbons as they raise their babies in their spacious habitat displays. Enjoy the only nesting colony of beautiful pink Chilean flamingos in Virginia & watch the rare Himalayan black bears soaking in their swimming pool. Our staff members give educational & entertaining talks throughout the day with select baby animals & colorful parrots. Feed, pet, & photograph hundreds of tame animals & birds up close. Free picnic area & Safari gift shop. Off I-81 between exits 175 & 180. 15 minutes off Parkway. Open daily 9-6pm. www.naturalbridgezoo.com (540) 291-2420.

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.

Lexington / Rockbridge, VA

Legendary history, awe-inspiring beauty and authentic experiences

With two official Appalachian Trail Communities – Buena Vista and Glasgow – our area welcomes recreation-lovers of all types. Visit the awe-inspiring Natural Bridge State Park, an Affiliated Unit of the National Park Service. Paddle the James River, cycle the picturesque backroads on a vineyard tour or tap your toes at a music festival at Glen Maury Park. After a scenic day on the parkway, trail or river, relax in one of our well-appointed cabins, B&Bs, hotels or campgrounds.

In historic Lexington – one of "The 20 Best Small Towns to Visit" by Smithsonian Magazine, and once home to Robert E. Lee, "Stonewall" Jackson and George C. Marshall – you can visit the museums, houses and gravesites honoring these iconic leaders. Watch a Virginia Military Institute Cadet Parade or hop aboard a horse-drawn carriage tour. Stroll the brick lined sidewalks enjoying our indie-owned shops, galleries and eateries. Tap the day off with a craft brew at Devils Backbone Outpost Brewery, one of the stops on the Shenandoah Beerwerks Trail.

All around Rockbridge County, you'll find engaging attractions such as Virginia Safari Park, Hull's Drive-In, circa-1750 Wade's Mill, Cyrus McCormick Farm and much more.

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS

Contact

Stop by our Visitor Centers located at:
106 E. Washington St., Lexington
595 E. 29th St. (U.S. Route 60)
Buena Vista | Mile Post 45.6

1-540-463-3777 ■ www.LexingtonVirginia.com

LODGING & CAMPING

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.campnbr.com (540) 291-2727.

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.

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.

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

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

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

Otter Lake
Photo by Jeff Greenberg

Lynchburg, VA

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

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!

Amid the Blue Ridge Mountains and alongside 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.

Contact
Lynchburg Visitor Center
216 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA

800-732-5821 ■ www.LynchburgVirginia.org

Kids can pick up a Junior Ranger packet at any Parkway Visitor Center.
Photo by Jeff Greenberg

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.

Graham Ordinary B&B, RV Camping - Rustic, historical B&B 1 mi off Pkwy, adjacent to Peaks of Otter. Cabin rental, 2 semi-private full service RV sites, 1 large $45/night site, 1 smaller $35/night, back in site. Extra parking available. Follow on Facebook. (540) 986-5621.

Bedford, VA

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

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

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

Contact

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

1-877-447-3257 ■ www.visitbedford.com

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 **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]. Self-guided trail, historic farm interpretive programs. Picnic area, campground, restrooms.

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

Peaks of Otter Lodge - MP 86 on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Open daily from 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.

BOTETOURT COUNTY, VA

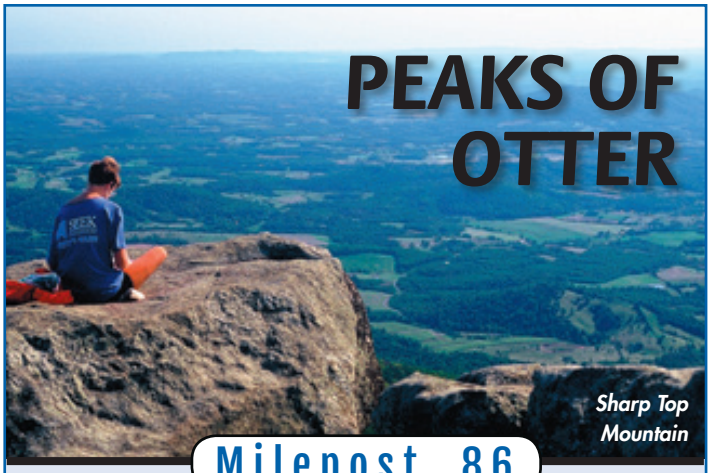
Just off the Parkway. Paddle the Upper James River Water Trail, hike the Appalachian Trail, visit our wine trail, and enjoy the downtowns of Buchanan, Fincastle & Troutville.
www.visitbotetourt.com www.botetourtva.gov

BUCHANAN, VA

4 mi. from Parkway Milepost 90.9. Downtown historic district with structures dating from 1750 - 1950. Shops filled with antiques, art, furniture & collectibles. Walk our Swinging Bridge or paddle the James River. www.townofbuchanan.com (540) 254-1212.

Middle Creek Campground - 1164 Middle Creek Rd. 7 miles from BRP MP 90. $30 sites on weeknights, beautiful mtn camping on the creek, food available, pool, fishing, swim pond, laundry, showers, ice cream. (540) 254-2550.

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.



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.

Blue Ridge Parkway Plateau Region:

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

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, stay. 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.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

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.

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

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

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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

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

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

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

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

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT

The Booker T. Washington National Monument is located near Hardy, Virginia, in Franklin County. It preserves portions of the 207-acre tobacco farm on which educator and leader Booker T. Washington was born into slavery on April 18, 1856.

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.

Begin your visit at the visitor center. Exhibits and an audio-visual presentation orient you to the life of Booker T. Washington. There is also a sales area with books and related items focusing on African American history. Uniformed park personnel and volunteers can answer your questions and assist you in making the most of your visit.

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway in Roanoke Via US 460 at Milepost 106 or Virginia Rt 24 at Milepost 112.2 east to Rt 122 south. Located at: 12130 Booker T Washington Hwy, Hardy, VA 24101
(540) 721-2094 • www.nps.gov/bowa

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 mi. 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.***

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.

Franklin County, VA

The "front door" to Virginia's mountains.

A door to many opportunities for recreation, relaxation, and discovery. Experience a jam session along the Crooked Road: Virginia's Heritage Music Trail or one of 150 yearly shows at the Harvester Performance Center. Follow the White Lightening Artisan and Franklin County Barn Quilt trails. Become a part of our many annual festivals and events.

Explore our local arts, crafts and cultural vibrancy in the historic towns of Rocky Mount and Boones Mill – as well as the four corners of the county. Savor the flavor of fine dining and home cooked meals, paired with local brews and spirits.

Get your outdoors on! Hike our scenic trails, nature preserves and wildlife management areas, including the parkway's Smart View Recreation Area. Paddle, boat, fish, and experience our four rivers and two spectacular lakes (Philpott and Smith Mountain). No Franklin County journey is complete without a visit to the Booker T. Washington National Monument and Blue Ridge Institute & Farm Museum. Franklin County – your front door to Virginia's mountains.

Contact

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

(540) 483-3030 ■ VisitFranklinCountyVA.org

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.

Mabry Mill, spinning
Photo by Jeff Greenberg

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, 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.

Floyd Center for the Arts (formerly 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.

Floyd County, VA

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

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.

Contact

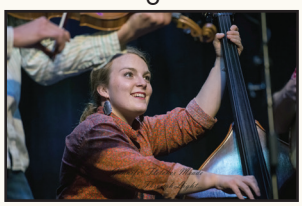
Floyd County Visitor Center
109 East Main St.
Floyd, VA 24091

540-745-4407 ■ www.VisitFloydVA.com

A PLACE OF BEAUTY – A PLACE OF SONG...

This is The Crooked Road.

The Crooked Road is a 330 mile driving route through the scenic mountains of Southwest Virginia that connects nine major heritage music venues and a thriving network of over 60 traditional music jams, festivals, and concerts in gracious communities all along the way. On The Crooked Road you will discover that the roots of American music run deep and wide. And those roots feed a living, breathing music scene as thriving and vibrant today as it has ever been. Settlers to the region brought the European fiddle and the African banjo, which blended together to create a unique sound that's been echoing across these mountains for generations.



Along The Crooked Road you can experience authentic musical traditions that have been shaped by some of the greatest names in American music, including the Carter Family, the Stonemans, and the Stanley Brothers. Be sure to pick up a copy of The Crooked Road Visitor Guide to help you get the most out of your heritage music experience. And join them for nine magical days every June during the annual Mountains of Music Homecoming when Crooked Road concerts and community cultural events take place all across Southwest Virginia.

For more information:
(276) 492-2409
www.thecrookedroad.org | www.mtnsofmusic.com

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.

Chestnut Ridge Farm - Farm house 1/2 mile off BRP at MP 152. Peaceful, views, animals. www.chestnutridgefarm.net (540) 493-8372.

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.

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. 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.stoneymeadowinn.com (877) 344-1088.

SHOPPING & RECREATION

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

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

167 - 174 **Rocky Knob**, 4,800 acres. Picnic area, comfort stations, campground, 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

169 **Rocky Knob Visitor Center ? and Park Store -** 15 miles of trails including Rock Castle Gorge National Recreational Trail. Alt. 3,572.

Pickett's Thickett - Milepost 170.4. 2 houses on 95 acres. 3 BR & 4 BR, AC, pond, fully equipped, very private. Near 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 1.5 mi. Award-winning southern B&B circa 1901. 5 large rooms w/ensuite, A/C, antiques, fireplaces, porches. Pool, trout stream, private 100 acres with walking path. Gourmet 3-course breakfast. www.mountainrose-inn.com (888) 930-1057.

WILLIS, VA

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

Buffalo Mountain Getaway - There's no place like home, except here. MP 174 onto Buff Mtn Rd, 8 miles, Rt on Burks Fork Rd. www.buffalomountaingetaway.com (540) 789-8335.

Cabins Off The Parkway - 579 Halls Store Rd, Willis VA. MP 174. 1 & 3 bedrooms with scenic views, 5 star reviews, disc golf 2017. www.cabinsofftheparkway.com (704) 807-1886.

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.

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

MEADOWS OF DAN, VA

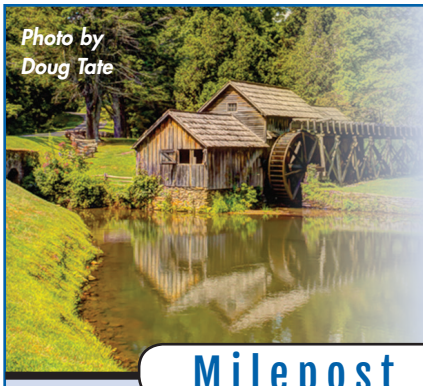
Just off Parkway on US 58, exit at Milepost 177.7

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, 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.



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.

Blue Ridge Motel - Adjct Parkway. 75 yds West on US 58 MP 177.7. Sat. TV, elect. heat, AC, carpet, tubs & showers. Low rates, WiFi. Clean and quiet. VISA-MC. Open all year. (276) 952-2244.

Mabry Mill Restaurant & Gift Shop - Country-style menu. Famous sweet potato, cornmeal and buckwheat pancakes. Breakfast all day. Lunch/dinner entrees. Virginia crafts and souvenirs. May-Oct. www.mabrymillrestaurant.com (276) 952-2947.

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.

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.

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.

Patrick County, VA

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

Contact

Patrick County Tourism
106 Rucker St.
Stuart, VA 24171

276-694-6094 ■ www.visitpatrickcounty.org

MARTINSVILLE, VA

40 miles east of Parkway MP 177.7 on US 58. Martinsville-Henry County Visitor Center, 191 Fayette St. History, art, recreation, & more. Fun in Record Time! www.VisitMartinsville.com (888) 722-3498.

188.8 **Groundhog Mountain Parking Overlook**, high point affording 360 degree view. Observation tower. Examples of various types of old chestnut rail fences. Picnic area, Comfort station. Alt. 3,030.

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

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.

Doe Run Resort - 200 yards from Parkway. MP 189.5. Wedding venue, conference center, resturant. www.doerunresort.com (276) 398-4099.

Monarch at Wolf Mountain Overlook
photo by Alex Armstrong

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.

Martinsville - Henry County, VA

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

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.

Contact

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

888.722.3498 ■ VisitMartinsville.com

FANCY GAP, VA

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

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Fancy Gap Cabins and Campground - Picturesque, quiet, family-owned property directly on Parkway. RV, tent camping, cabins & motel rooms. Come enjoy the fresh mtn. air. MP 202.5. Motorcycles, bicycles welcome. www.fancygapcabinsandcampground.com (484) 560-9119.

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

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

Mountain Top Motel - MP 200 at Rt 52, half way point along Parkway, restaurant, gas across street, clean rooms, wireless internet, DIRECTV w/ 200 ch. (276) 728-9414.

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

RECREATION

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

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

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

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.

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.

Mount Airy, NC

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

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

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.

Contact

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

visitmayberry.com

ATTRACTIONS

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

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.mountairyhotel.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.mountairy.hamptoninn.com Call (336) 789-5999 or (800) 565-5249.

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.

SURRY COUNTY, NC

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

Flame Azalea is named for the clusters of vibrant blooms that decorate the shrub from late spring to midsummer.

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.

Welcome to Dobson

Birthplace of the Yadkin Valley AVA

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.

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, picnicking and playing at local parks & numerous other outdoor activities while in the Dobson area.

Contact

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

336-356-8962 ■ www.dobson-nc.com

the Blue Ridge Parkway

The Blue Ridge Parkway is literally the "Backbone" of a great scenic mountain region embracing the Southern (and highest) portion of the Appalachian mountain range, an area of approximately 20,000 square miles. Opening up vast mountain areas for the benefit and enjoyment of all, the Parkway forms a broad avenue of approach, and at the same time a high balcony from which to view the natural wonders and cultural significance of this mountain region.

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

You may enter or leave the Parkway at any of the US or State highway intersections. These intersecting roads lead to scores of towns, mountain resorts, and scenic areas close to the Parkway on either side, where accommodations, meals and service stations are available. The ✪ symbol on the 6 sectional maps will help you easily identify these Parkway entrances/ exits. We have also shown on the six detailed section maps, the approximate location of every tenth Milepost.

This directory is designed to help you select accommodations and to enjoy to the fullest the scenic attractions along the Parkway. There is a numbered Milepost each mile along the Parkway. You will note in this directory in bold type, the mileage which will correspond with the Mileposts.

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

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

You can visit http://go.nps.gov/parkway-realtime-map/road-closures or call the Parkway's recorded information line at 828-298-0398 to access road condition information.

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

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

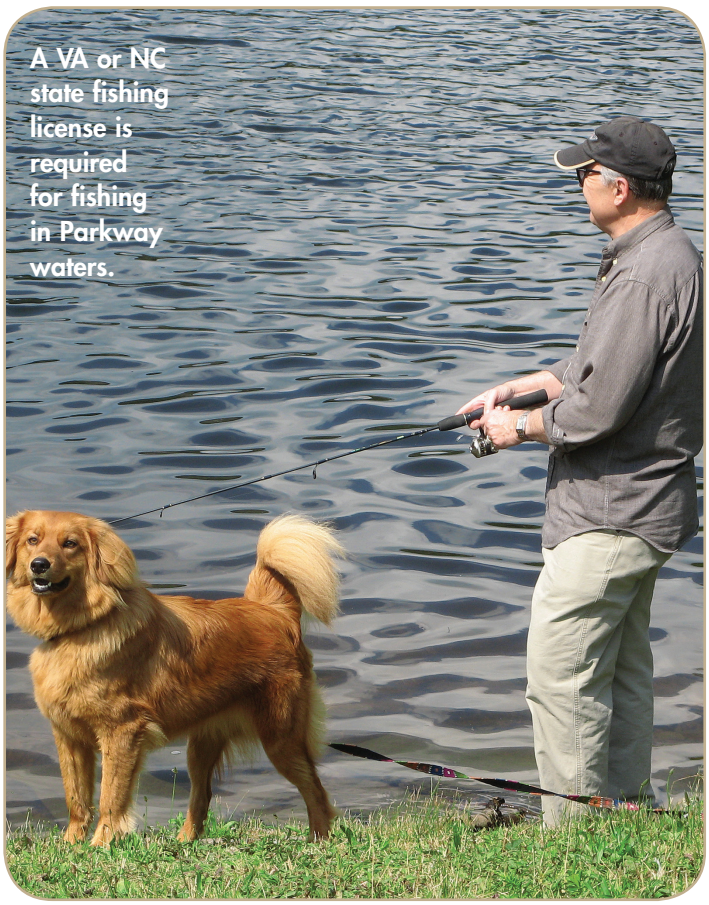
Exit at MP 199, via US 52 S, 5 miles SSE of the town of Pilot Mountain, near Pilot Mountain State Park.

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. Outdoor stage and amphitheater features regularly scheduled seasonal performances (June-September) of old-time and bluegrass music. (276) 236-5309. Open Daily Summer-October. Visit www.blueridgemusiccenter.org for concert schedule.

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

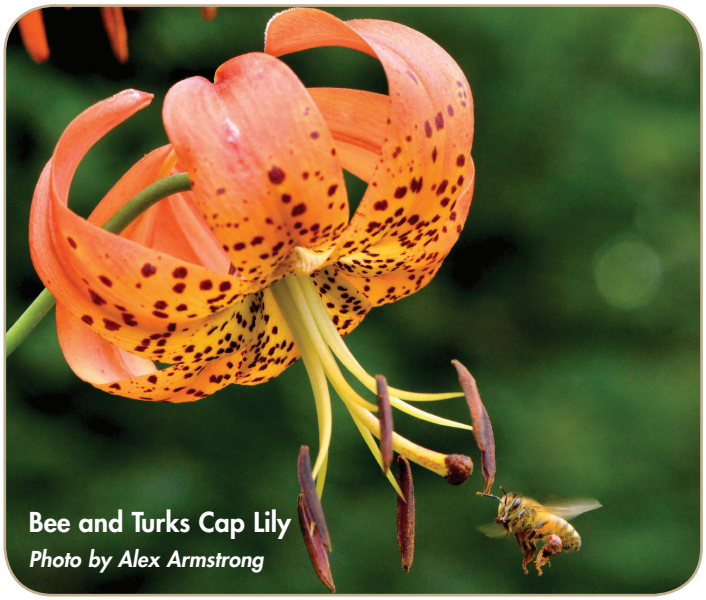


ABINGDON, VA

Off Interstate 81, Exits 14, 17, 19.

Barter Theatre - Professional Live Theatre - Unleash your imagination with two unique stages and endless adventures. Abingdon, VA - I-81 exit 17. Call (276) 628-3991 & 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.



Bee and Turks Cap Lily
Photo by Alex Armstrong

BRISTOL, VA / TN

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

Birthplace of Country Music Museum - A Smithsonian Institution affiliate, tells the story of the 1927 Bristol Sessions and its continued impact on music today. www.birthplaceofcountrymusic.org (423) 573-1927.

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?

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

Galax, VA

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

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

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

Contact

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

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

Rocky Knob
Photo by Douglas Tate

DID YOU KNOW?

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

GALAX, VA

Exit 215, just 7 miles north on Rt 89. Live radio show each Friday night from the Rex Theater. Downtown shops, area museum, New River Trail, August Old Fiddler's Convention, Crooked Road Historic Music Trail. www.visitgalax.com (276) 238-8130.

City Gallery Fine Art - 207 S Main St - 7 mi from Pkwy. A co-op of regional artists & fine crafts. www.citygallerygalax.com (276) 236-8338.

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 & pet friendly. 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.***

Surry County, NC Yadkin Valley Wine Country

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

Elkin – Mount Airy – Dobson – Pilot Mountain

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

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

Contact

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

800-948-0949 ■ www.yadkinvalleync.com

WYTHEVILLE, VA

Outdoor recreation, arts, music, theater, history, wineries, motorcycle trails, mountains—an authentic getaway awaits you. Wytheville…There's Only One. www.VisitWytheville.com 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.

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

Panorama
Photo by Alex Armstrong

Wytheville, VA

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

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.

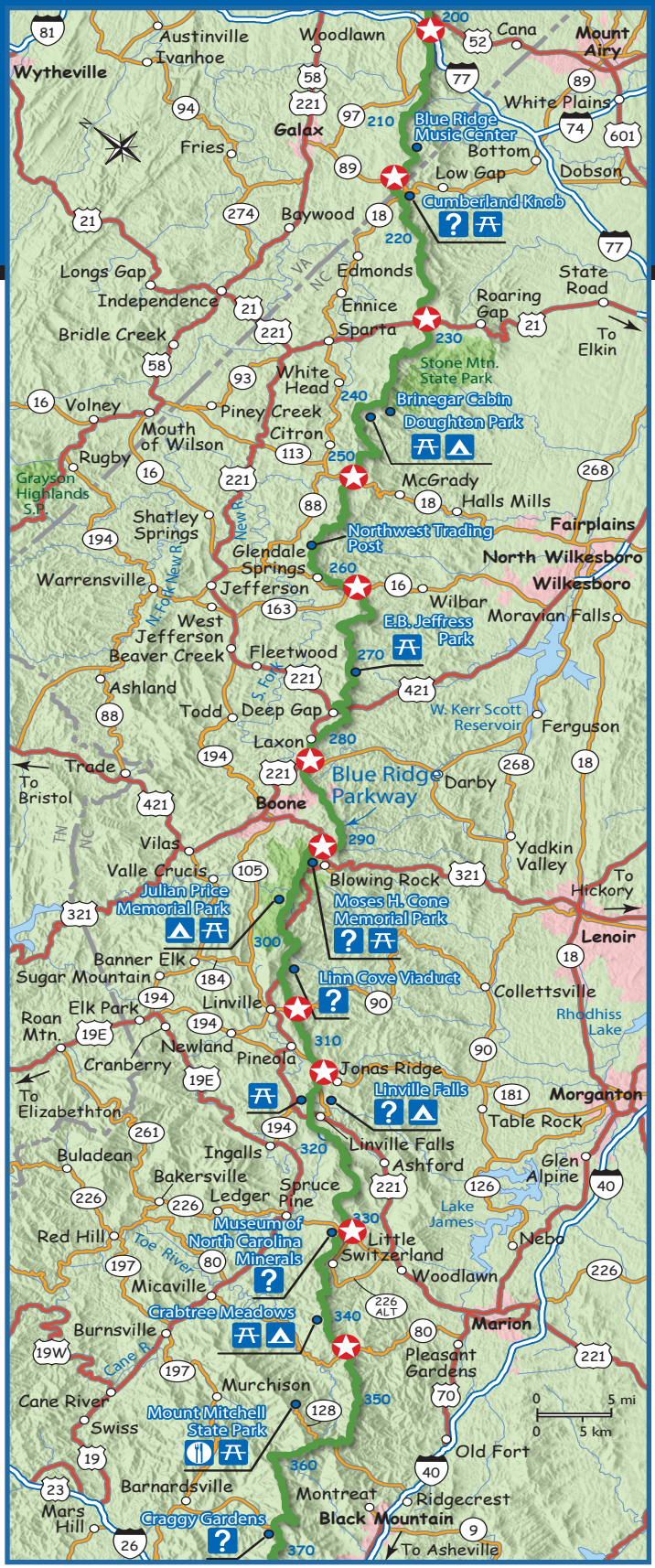
Contact

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

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., 17 mi. to Independence, VA. East 4 mi. to Roaring Gap, NC.

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, NC

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

John Harmon Gallery - 10100 US Hwy 21 S Roaring Gap. MP 229, south on 21, four miles. Fine art, pottery & chainsaw carving. www.JohnHarmonGallery.com (336) 363-9138.

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.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

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.

JONESVILLE, NC

Heart of the Yadkin Valley. Exit at Milepost 229, go South of Parkway on US 21 to I-77 Exit 82. The Jonesville area offers a true hub for visitors to the Yadkin Valley Wine Region. Yadkin County boasts at least 12 wineries that offer tours, tastings, and refined dining. We also have abundant opportunities for the antique collector or outdoor adventurer. Need overnight accommodations? Stay at our first class hotels with 301 rooms. We also have numerous gas stations nearby to fill up and unique locally owned restaurants for your dining pleasure. Once you have finished eating and drinking, you can go outdoors and walk our greenway, kayak the Yadkin River or hike nearby Stone Mountain. For more info visit Jonesville Welcome Center I-77 Exit 82, (336) 835-2000.

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).

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.

Parkway Cornfields
MP 316

Alleghany County & Sparta, NC

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.

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.

Contact

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

1-800-372-5473 ■ www.CoolSparta.com

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*

Doughton Information Station and Park Store opening in 2017

238.5 -248 **Doughton Park** - was named after Robert L. Doughton, a staunch supporter and neighbor of the parkway. 6,000 acres. More than 30 miles of hiking trails meander through the park's pastures and along its streams. Hikers may encounter 25 stream crossings through ankle to knee-deep water. Visitors can stretch their legs on modest strolls or embark on more ambitious, day-long outings. Some trails may be strenuous.

238.5 **Brinegar Cabin** built by Martin Brinegar about 1880 and lived in until the 1930s when the homestead was purchased from his widow for the parkway.

239 **Campground trailer sites**, comfort stations, drinking water.

241 **Doughton Park Visitor Information Station and Park Store** - elevation 3702'.

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

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

Elkin, NC

Visit The Best Small Town in America!

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.

Contact

www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com
www.WhatsUpinElkinNC.com

336-794-6469 ■ www.VisitTheYadkinValley.com

Milepost 238

DOUGHTON PARK & BRINEGAR CABIN

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

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

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

Doughton Park
Photo by William A. Bake

LAUREL SPRINGS, NC

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

Miller's Campground - 1 mi. N of Hwy 18 on Pkwy. FHU with 30 amp, tent sites, hot showers, laundry, adjacent to MST, WiFi. Open Apr. 15 - Oct. 31st. www.millerscamping.com (336) 359-2828.

Thistle Meadow Winery - Family-owned winery located 3 mi. from MP 246. Over 50 kinds of wines made. WiFi available. www.thistlemeadowwinery.com (800) 233-1505.

Wild Woody's Campground & 3 Antique Stores - Just off Parkway on Hwy 18. Campground on trout stream, showers, beer, snacks. Ice cream, amazing antiques, rare records. 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), or (336) 982-2059.

ASHE COUNTY, NC

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

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

Linville Falls Trail
Photo by Alex Armstrong

GLENDALE SPRINGS, NC

100 yards west of Northwest Trading Post, MP 259.

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

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 Camp & RV Park - Between Mileposts 257 & 258 just off NC 16. Beautifully shaded, full hookups, fishing. Open April 15 til Nov 1. www.raccoonholler.com (336) 982-2706.

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

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.

Yadkin Valley, NC

vineyards
history
music
craft
art
festivals
outdoor fun

With abundant outdoor activities, local arts and 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, canoeing, disc golf, and ziplining, the Yadkin Valley offers all of that and more. Visit shops, restaurants, galleries, and antique stores, take in a farmer's market or festival. Tour a distillery and try some moonshine, or visit 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.

Contact

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

www.GoYadkinValley.com

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.

Rough Ridge Boardwalk
Photo by William A. Bake

West Jefferson, NC

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

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!

Contact
Exit at Milepost 259
800-438-7500

888-343-2743 ■ MountainsofNC.com

GUILFORD COURTHOUSE NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

On March 15, 1781, the largest, most hotly-contested battle of the Revolutionary War's Southern Campaign was fought at the small North Carolina backcounty hamlet of Guilford Courthouse.

The museum exhibits at Guilford Courthouse NMP provide visitors with information on the American Revolution, the battle, the campaign and the people involved. You will find displays of weaponry, military equipment, everyday items, musical instruments and information on soldiers, women, Quakers, commanders and the aftermath of the battle and the meaning of the War for Independence. At times, the museum may feature special exhibits or displays.

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway from Roanoke at Milepost 121.4 onto US 220 South. Located at 332 New Garden Road in Greensboro, NC 27410.

For more information:

(336) 288-1776 • www.nps.gov/guco

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. East 26 miles to North Wilkesboro.

FLEETWOOD, NC

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

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

WINSTON-SALEM, NC

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

Old Salem - Restored 18th-19th century town with 80 buildings on 100+ acres; decorative arts, award-winning heirloom gardens, shopping, dining, picnic tables. 1.5 hours from Parkway. 9:30-4:30 Tues-Sat; 1:00-4:30 Sunday. www.oldsalem.org (336) 721-7300.

Wilkes County, NC

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.

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

MerleFest, Blue Ridge Music Hall of Fame, Shine to Wine, 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.

Contact

Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

(Funded by Wilkesboro Tourism Development Convention and Visitors Bureau)

336-838-8662 ■ www.ExploreWilkes.com

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.

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

"your time…our place". Sculpted by Nature…Crafted by Man, visit Caldwell County; experience live music, live theatre, festivals and car shows, world class sculpture exhibits, local crafts, antiques. Located thirty minutes south of Blowing Rock at Milepost 294. www.explorecaldwell.com (828) 726-0616.

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***

NC High Country Host & Regional Visitor Center - ***Travel info for Boone, Blowing Rock, Beech Mtn, West Jefferson area. Open 7 days a week, located at BRP Milepost 291 exit. Order a free vacation planner. www.MountainsofNC.com Call (800) 438-7500.***

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.

Elizabethton/Carter County, TN

ANNUAL EVENTS

Elizabethton Covered Bridge Celebration:
Second week of June

Rhododendron Festival
June 17 & 18

Elizabethton Twins Baseball Season:
June - September

Liberty!
The Saga of Sycamore Shoals:
July 14-16, July 21-23, July 28-30

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. This is your invitation to discover Tennessee's Mountain Playground.

Antiquing; Diverse local dining; Many cabins as well as bed and breakfasts are available.

"Autumn in Carter County" by Courtney Valentine

Contact
P.O. Box 190
Elizabethton, TN 37644

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

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

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

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

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton - MP 291.9, Boone's only Hilton hotel. Opened Oct 2016. 1252 US 421 South. Heated pool, free WiFi.(828) 386-6464.

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

Highland Hills Motel & Cabins - 2748 Hwy 105, Boone NC. Rooms, cabins, condos & cottages, pet friendly. www.highlandhillscabins.com For best rates call (800) 948-5276.

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.

Lost Province Brewing Company - A brewpub located in downtown Boone at 130 N. Depot St. Serves authentic and innovative craft beer & savory wood fired fare. www.lostprovince.com (828) 265-3506.

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

Doughton Park, Ice Rock Falls
Photo by William A. Bake

Boone, NC

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

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.

Contact
Boone, NC
Exit at Milepost 291
ExploreBoone.com

800-852-9506 ■ ExploreBoone.com

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.

RECREATION

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

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 resort village on the Parkway. Exit Hwy 221 & 321, MP 293 & 295. Lodging, dining, boutique and outlet shopping. Near The Blowing Rock, Mystery Hill, Tweetsie Railroad and Grandfather Mountain attractions. PO Box 2445, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. www.BlowingRock.com (828) 295-4636 or (877) 750-4636.

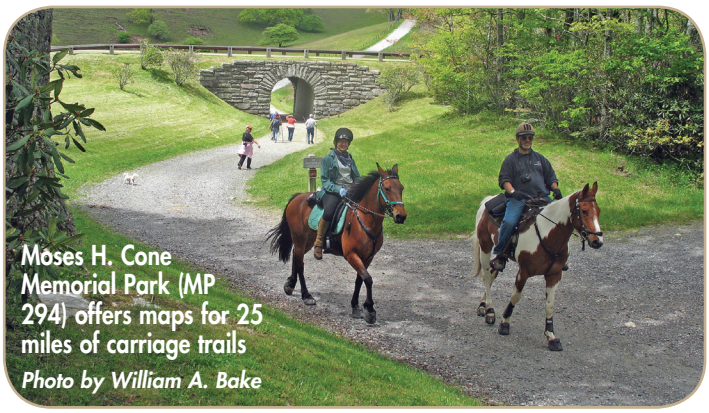
ATTRACTIONS

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

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

Doc's Rocks Gem Mine & Appalachian Fossil Museum - 111 Mystery Hill Lane, just 1.5 mi. from Parkway. Open all year 9-5. www.docsrocks.net (828) 264-4499.

High Gravity Adventures - MP 291.9 Boone/Blowing Rock. Aerial adventure park. Discount code BRP to save 10%. www.highgravityadventures.com (828) 386-6222.



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

Photo by William A. Bake

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.

Mystery Hill - Be Amazed! Since 1948 visitors have experienced a true gravitational anomaly that causes objects to defy gravity. Question your perception. Stand inside a giant soap bubble. Over 50,000 arrowheads, 1903 Dougherty House, gem mining, fossil museum and more. BRP MP 291.9 Hwy 321. Open every day rain or shine, except Christmas. www.mysteryhill-nc.com (828) 264-2792.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hemlock Inn & Suites - "A Blowing Rock Tradition". Open all year. One of downtown's best locations. Located 2 miles from Blue Ridge Parkway. Hemlock Inn is one building off main street, within walking distance of shops, restaurants, and park. Kings, queens, and king 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 sitting area with fire pit 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.

Blowing Rock, NC

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.

One of the only towns located directly on the Blue Ridge Parkway, Blowing Rock offers visitors sweeping vistas of the Blue Ridge Mountains and storybook village charm.

It's a place where you can roam...or relax. Explore hiking and biking trails, go horseback riding, fly fishing or skiing at Appalachian Ski Mountain. Shop in our unique downtown boutiques or outlets. Visit family attractions including The Blowing Rock, Tweetsie Railroad and Grandfather Mountain or discover our annual festivals including Blowing Rock WinterFest (Jan), SAVOR Blowing Rock (April), Art in the Park (May-Oct), Blowing Rock Horse Show (July-Aug), and Blowing Rock Music Festival (Sept). Then, take time to pamper yourself at one of our spas, indulge at our award-winning restaurants, or rest up in style at our bed and breakfasts, country inns, hotels, resorts or vacation rentals.

Blowing Rock-
Crown of the
Blue Ridge

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

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.

Inn at Ragged Gardens - Located 1.5 mi. from Parkway. Historic downtown location with in-house restaurant. www.ragged-gardens.com (828) 295-9703.

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.

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

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

Westglow Resort & Spa - 1 mile from Parkway on Hwy 221. Open all year. Enjoy day spa packages, fine dining, and overnight visits. www.westglow.com (828) 295-4463.

Woodlands BBQ - Best in BBQ. Located on 321 Bypass. Featuring barbeque beef, pork, chicken & ribs. Open from 11 am until 10pm. Take out available. www.woodlandsbbq.com (828) 295-3651.

SHOPPING & MISCELLANEOUS

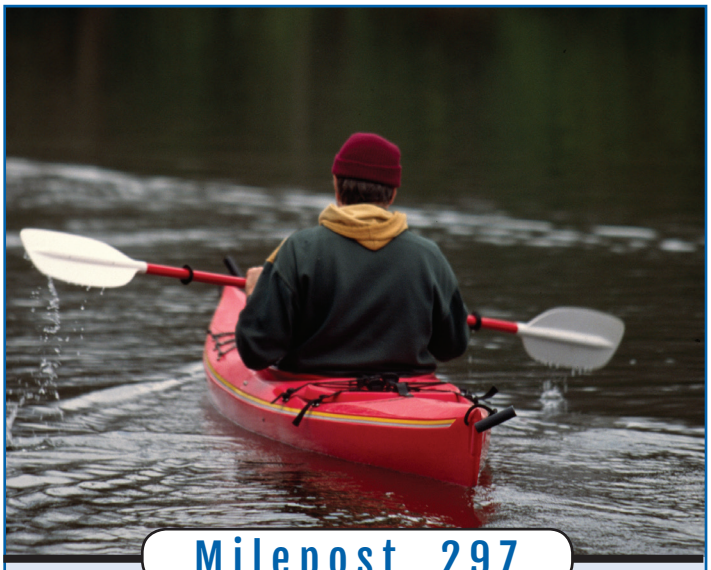
Grandfather Country Store - MP 298. Est. 1880's. Intersect Holloway Mtn Rd & Hwy 221 - 1 mi off Pkwy. Travel info, staples, antiques, local foods & gifts. www.grandfathercountrystore.com (828) 295-6100.

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.craftguild.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.

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



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.

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.

304.4 **Linn Cove Viaduct Information 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.

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.bestwesternbannerelk.com or call (877) 877-4553.

Seven Devils, NC

Seven Devils— A unique Destination!

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

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

"DISCOVER OUR POSITIVE ALTITUDE"

Contact

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

828-963-5343 ■ www.sevendevils.net

Carlton Gallery - 10360 Hwy 105 S. between Boone & Banner Elk, NC. Celebrating 35 years, local/regional artists, paintings, clay, wood, glass, fiber art, jewelry, art workshops. www.carltongallery.com (828) 963-4288.

Grandfather Vineyard - MP 305, Linville exit US 221. Right at light onto 105 South, then 7.6 mi. to Vineyard Lane on R. Daily tastings 12-6pm. www.grandfathervineyard.com (828) 963-2400.

The Pedalin' Pig - 4235 NC Hwy 105. Open daily 11am-9pm. Southern style BBQ, ribs, brisket, chicken, trout. Inside/outside dine-in/takeout. Large, easy parking, WiFi. www.thepedalinpig.com

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.

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

Fred's General Mercantile - on Beech Mountain, 30 min from Milepost exit 305.2, everything a general store used to be ...and more! "If we don't have it, you don't need it" www.fredsgeneral.com (828) 387-4838.

The Parkway is a favorite ride among motorcyclists

The Village of Sugar Mountain, NC

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!

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

Photo Courtesy of Todd Bush

Contact

Stay and play, in the Village of Sugar Mountain!

1-866-79-SUGAR ■ www.seesugar.com

LINVILLE, NC

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

62nd Grandfather Mountain Highland Games - July 6-9, 2017. 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 (weather permitting in winter). www.grandfather.com Phone (828) 733-4337 or (800) 468-7325.

Gable Haus Inn - 154 Ruffin St. 3 miles from Parkway. Cottages, rooms, breakfast, TripAdvisor approved, pet friendly. www.gablehausinn.com (828) 733-9535.

Old Hampton Store & Barbeque - 77 Ruffin St. Linville, MP 305. 1920 general store, BBQ restaurant, tavern www.oldhamptonstorenc.com (828) 733-5215.

Pixie Motor Inn - Intersection of NC 105 and US 221. 25 Grade A units. Electric heat. Grade A Cafe nearby. Color television. Free ice for cooler. Air conditioned. (828) 733-2597.

308.2 **Flat Rock Parking Area.** Self-guiding nature trail to superb view of Linville Valley and Grandfather Mountain.

NEWLAND, NC

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

Secluded Valley RV Campground - 8 miles North of Spruce Pine on 19E. 5 miles from Blue Ridge ParkwayMilepost 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.

Huskins Court Motel & Cottages - Hwy 221 Pineola, NC. Renovated '50s motor court, clean, comfortable, safe, great rates, welcoming staff. (828) 733-2564.

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.

Avery County, NC

Come for the day, spend a lifetime.

Avery County, North Carolina, located in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains welcomes fun seekers of all ages. Experience our distinct four seasons. We are Home to the world famous Woolly Worm Festival, one of the top 10 fall festivals. Ski the highest summits of the South at our 3 state of the art ski resorts, Appalachian Ski Mountain, Beech Mountain Resort and Sugar Mountain Resort. Activities abound year round including hiking, biking, rafting, tubing, horseback riding, antiquing, fine art festivals, art galleries and more. Cross the mile high bridge at Grandfather Mountain, explore the Civil War Trail, swim, fish and canoe at beautiful Wildcat Lake or take a thrilling ride on a zipline. Visit the Blue Ridge Parkway, America's favorite scenic drive, or see the majestic mountains from the comfort of a trolley tour while visiting our award winning wineries. Visit Newland the highest county seat east of the Mississippi and celebrate our rich mountain heritage. Shop and dine in beautiful downtown Banner Elk and enjoy true Southern hospitality. Avery County offers a variety of lodging and dining to satisfy any taste and budget. Live the dream, Avery County is a sought after place to live work and play. From our top notch schools and colleges to our entrepreneurial spirit, why live anywhere else?

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

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.

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*

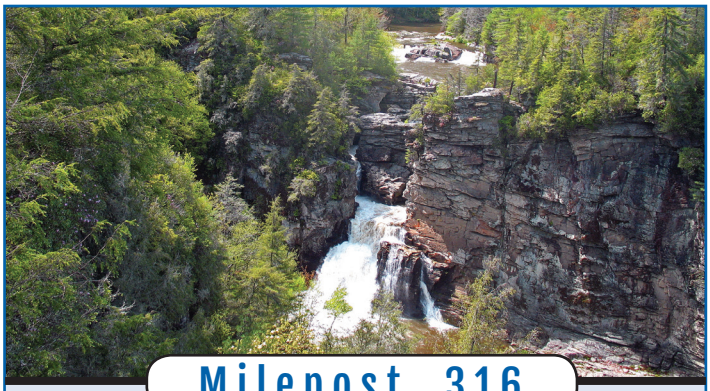
FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

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.

Linville Falls Campground, RV Park & Cabins - Milepost 317, left (south) on US 221, 500 ft. Beautifully shaded, full hookup sites. Separate wooded tent area. Cabin, rentals. Hot showers, playground, laundry. May 1-Nov. 1. *www.linvillefalls.com* (828) 765-2681.

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.



Milepost 316

LINVILLE FALLS

The English botanist Mark Catesby observed, described, and sketched the natural world of the Blue Ridge for seven years in the eighteenth century. His particular interest was the extensive network of streams and rivers arising along the mountains and gathering volume and speed as they descended to the coastal plain and beyond.

"The larger rivers in Carolina and Virginia," he wrote, "have their sources in the Appalachian Mountains, generally springing from rocks, and forming cascades and waterfalls... uniting into single streams... innumerable brooks and rivulets, all which contribute to form and supply the large rivers." Here at Linville Falls, Catesby's descriptions become real for the Parkway visitor.

The Linville River flows from its beginning point high on the steep slopes of Grandfather Mountain and cascades through two falls as it begins a nearly 2,000 foot descent through a rugged and spectacularly beautiful gorge. The Cherokee knew this river as "Eeseeoh" or "river of cliffs," and a hike into the gorge leaves no doubt about the origin of the name.

Towering hemlocks, dense stands of rhododendron and native wildflowers grow along the trails that encircle the falls. Little wonder this is one of the Parkway's top destinations. And what awaits the visitor who hikes down from the visitor center at Linville? A forested gorge of virgin timber stands as pristine and primitive as in the days when only Native Americans called this place home. The aquatic and forest ecology and the unique geological stories told here make a visit special.

In the early days of Parkway planning, under the shade of a hemlock tree above the falls, philanthropist John D. Rockefeller was treated to a fine picnic lunch and convinced of the necessity of protecting this piece of Appalachian scenery. The lunch was spread out within earshot of sawmills that had already begun timbering the area. After some months of negotiations, Mr. Rockefeller agreed to "pick up the tab" for the Linville Falls property, ensuring protection for Parkway visitors today.

We may not immediately think of the Blue Ridge Parkway as a park rich in water resources. But from Native Americans to colonial botanists and 21st century tourists, the waterways and streams of the Blue Ridge have played a vital role in the overall ecology and unsurpassed beauty of our region. The Blue Ridge Parkway, like all national parks, is set aside to protect these special parts of our world.

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.

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.

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.

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. Call us for information. www.blueridgetravelers.com (888) 233-6111.

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.

Inn on Mill Creek - B&B in Pisgah National Forest, just 20 min. east of MP 382.6 or exit the Parkway at MP 344. A casual & comfortable homebase while exploring from Linville to the Asheville area. 3895 Mill Creek Rd. Old Fort NC. www.innonmillcreek.com (828) 668-1115.

331 **NC 226 Crossover**. 6 mi. north to Spruce Pine. 14 mi. south to Marion.

McDowell County, NC

Gold, gems and other mountain treasures are less than 2 hours from Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Charlotte and Greenville/ Spartanburg!

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!

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.blueridgetravelers.com

331 **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

331 **Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail** - Commemorates the campaign leading up to the American victory at Kings Mountain in 1780. Route crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway at Gillespie Gap, near the Mineral Museum. Administered by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/ovvi

PENLAND, NC

8 miles north of Parkway via NC 226N, exit at Milepost 331.

Penland Gallery - At Penland School of Crafts in Mitchell County, featuring contemporary craft and information about area studios. Open Tues-Sun from March to early Dec. Exit Parkway at US 226; follow 226N 7.5 miles; turn onto Penland Rd; follow signs to Penland School. Call (828) 765-6211.

MITCHELL COUNTY, NC

Exit Milepost 331. Gem mining, gem & mineral shops, Gem & Mineral Festival, Rhododendron Festival, whitewater rafting, Appalachian Trail/Roan Mountain, Penland School of Crafts, NC's largest indoor recreational facility. For accommodations, event dates & attractions, contact: Chamber of Commerce, 79 Parkway Rd., Spruce Pine, NC 28777. Email: info@mitchell-county.com. Web site: www.mitchell-county.com (828) 765-9483 or (800) 227-3912.

SPRUCE PINE, NC

6 miles north of Parkway via NC 226, exit at Milepost 331.

ATTRACTIONS

Gem Mountain - 13780 Hwy. 226S 1 mile from Parkway MP 331. Open March-December Monday-Saturday; open daily June, July & August. 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, TV & WiFi. Open year round. Top Trip Advisor status. www.richmondinn.us or (828) 765-6993.

Springmaid Mountain Campground/Cabins - Retreat, horses/tubing/fishing. 7 mi N of MP 331 @ 2171 Henredon Rd. Year round. www.springmaidmountain.com (888) 297-0725.

SHOPPING

Blue Ridge Soap Shed - See soap made. Enjoy 130 varieties of handmade soap in retail shop. Open 10-5 Mon-Sat April-December. 6/10th 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

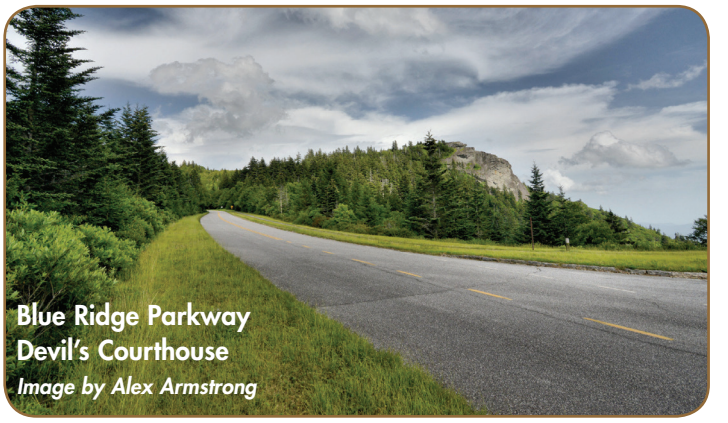
Emerald Village - 3 miles from Parkway at Little Switzerland. Gem mining, gold panning, mine tours, waterfall, free exhibits, real mines, fun shopping! NC's Gem! www.emeraldvillage.com (828) 765-6463.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

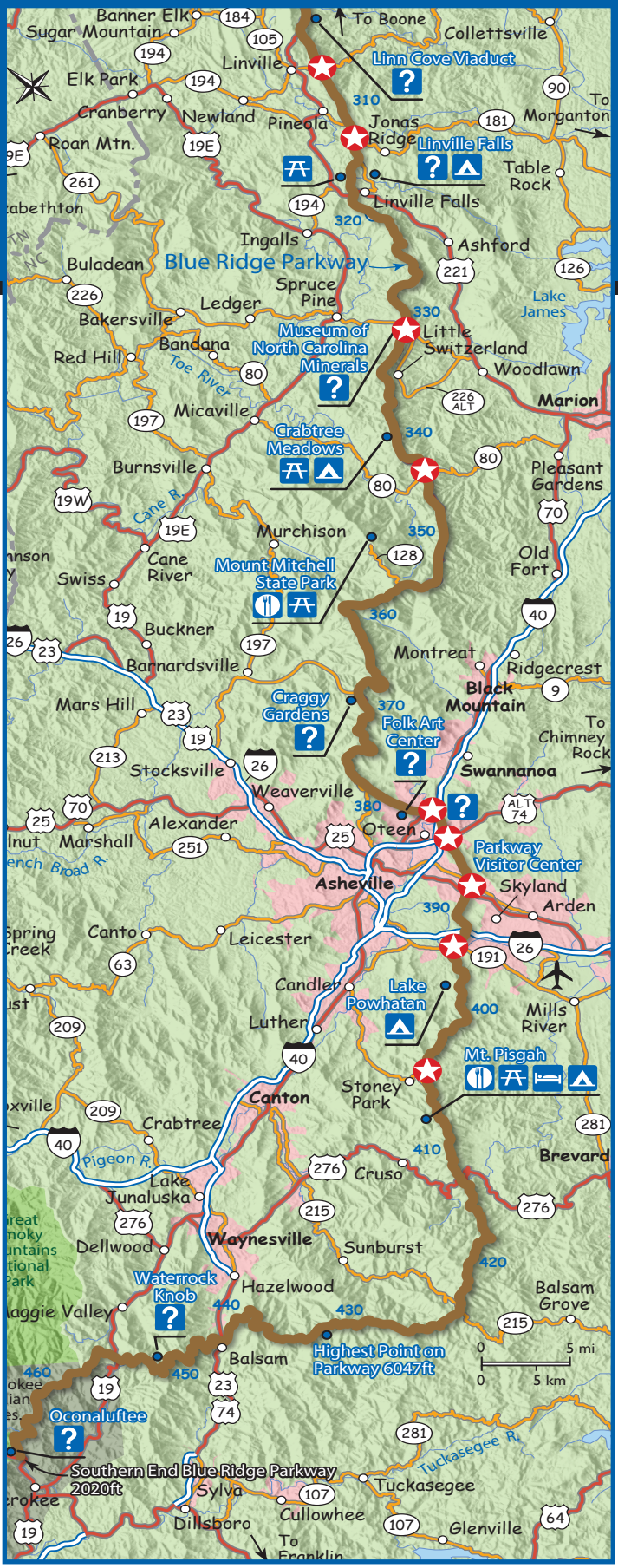
Alpine Inn - Clinging to the side of Grassy Mountain with THE most spectacular views in Little Switzerland. Rooms with large private balconies. Free sunrise, Wi-Fi, picnic area, grill, firepit. Reasonable rates. From MP 334, 1 mi. S on 226A. www.AlpineInnNC.com (828) 765-5380.

Switzerland Cafe & General Store - Hwy 226A, Milepost 334. Open 7 days. Serving lunch daily Easter - Halloween. 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.



Blue Ridge Parkway
Devil's Courthouse
Image by Alex Armstrong



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. 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 (828) 682-7413.

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.

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.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

SHOPPING

OOAK Art Gallery - 14 miles north of MP 344. Fine, folk, & funky local art and live music. www.ooakartgallery.com (828) 675-0690.

Something Special Gift Shop - Downtown Burnsville. A unique shop in a country store setting. One block from picturesque town square. Mon-Sat 9-6. (828) 682-9101.

355.4 **NC 128. To Mount Mitchell State Park.** Highest peak in Eastern U.S.A., observation tower, tent camping area, trails, nature study, picnic area, Natural History Museum, restaurant. (May-October).

364.4 **Craggy Gardens Visitor Center and Park Store.** 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 Little Town That Rocks." 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.redrockerinn.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 Visitor Center and Park Store** - 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.

Yancey County, NC

Come and experience our home – you may find you belong here!

Welcome to the Home of Mt Mitchell...

Welcome to Yancey County, North Carolina. This scenic mountain destination is known for a unique blend of mountain music, world-renowned arts and crafts culture, thriving business community, and endless opportunities for outdoor recreation. Nestled in the Black Mountain Range, Yancey County is home to six of the tallest peaks east of the Mississippi, including Mt. Mitchell which stands at 6,684 feet and is THE tallest peak in the Eastern US.

Burnsville is a picture of Americana, the kind of place that invites you to take a leisurely stroll around Town Square. Enjoy a charming mix of shops, galleries and restaurants.
The majestic solitude of our mountains with their unspoiled, breathtaking beauty, the gentle pace of life and our warm, welcoming community have enticed numerous people to live, work and play here. Come and experience our home – you may find you belong here!

Contact

Burnsville Chamber of Commerce
106 West Main Street
Burnsville, NC 28714

828.682.7413 ■ www.yanceychamber.com

Milepost 364

CRAGGY GARDENS

The name here is appropriate - Craggy Gardens. Twisted, jagged, rocky "crags" give the place its name, but these high elevation summits are home to the most spectacular floral display along the 469 mile Parkway corridor. For generations, visitors have headed for the Craggies in mid to late June, typically the prime time for viewing the pink and purple blooms of Catawba rhododendrons that blanket much of the area.

In addition to the "rhodies," the Craggies turn red in the fall with a spectacular show of mountain ash berries that can cast a scarlet glow over the entire area. The same species dominates parts of the highlands of Scotland as well and "craggy" is a term that many of the early settlers brought from their homeland to describe the rugged Blue Ridge.

High elevations such as Craggy Gardens yield an abundance of wildflowers and rare plants. From a distance, treeless areas such as the craggies appear bare and have become known as "balds." There are two types of appalachian balds... grassy and heath. The former are dominated by grasses, wildflowers and occasional members of the heath family. Heath balds are typically home to low growing rhododendron, mountain laurel, blueberries and flame Azalea. Although these balds are disappearing for reasons that are unclear, both can still be found at the craggies. Because of the presence of rare and endangered plants, easily damaged by careless hikers, please stay on the trails – for their safety and for your own!

Harsh weather can invade these exposed, high elevation ridgetops, resulting in the gnarled forests of twisted beech, birch, and buckeye. At 5,500 feet elevation, weather conditions here are severe. Strong winds, ice storms, and the short growing season dwarf and twist anything that dares to grow here.

With or without warning, severe weather can come to the Craggies, so always be prepared for colder temperatures and high winds.

384 **Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center and Park Store** 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.

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

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.

SHOPPING

Bubba O'Leary's General Store - 17 miles east of MP 384.7 US Hw 74, open year round, old timey fun stuff and gear for all your mountain adventures. www.bubbaolearys.com (828) 625-2479.

LAKE LURE, NC

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

Fox Run Townhouses - Lake Lure. Townhouses with full kitchens, fireplaces, washer/dryers and Jacuzzi tubs, golf, tennis and water activities. www.8664myvacation.com (866) 469-8222.

384 **Blue Ridge Parkway Headquarters** is located just off the Parkway at Milepost 383. Information may be obtained by writing to this address: 199 Hemphill Knob Rd, Asheville, NC 28803 or calling (828) 298-0398. Detailed information may be found on the National Park Service's Parkway Web Site at www.nps.gov/blri

RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NC

Welcome Center 2932 Memorial Hwy. Lake Lure NC 28746, MP 384.7. Have the Time of Your Life! www.visitblueridgenc.com (828) 287-6113.

ASHEVILLE, NC

This mountain resort city at Milepost 382.6 of the Blue Ridge Parkway beckons lovers of festivals, the outdoors, fine restaurants, distinctive shopping, and Biltmore Estate, a 250-room French Renaissance chateau. The Visitors Center at Exit 4C off I-240 is open every day, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. M-F and 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. weekends. www.exploreasheville.com (828) 258-6101.

ATTRACTIONS

Biltmore Estate - Discover the timeless hospitality of Biltmore® in Asheville, NC. Experience the breathtaking beauty of Biltmore House—America's largest home®—and century-old gardens. Explore our 8,000-acre Blue Ridge Mountain backyard, then taste award-winning wines, dine, and shop in Antler Hill Village. Relax in our two splendid hotels for a complete getaway. Located on US 25, just north of the Parkway and I-40. Plan your visit online at www.biltmore.com or call 1-877-BILTMORE.

Blue Ridge Towns & Trails - ***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 - Conveniently located at the intersection of I-40 and I-26. To keep up-to-date on all Asheville Outlets happenings, follow us on Facebook & Instagram @ashevilleoutlets and Twitter @shopasheville or visit www.ShopAshevilleOutlets.com

Folk Art Center

Rutherford Co., NC

Come year-round for a relaxing getaway. Boost your adrenaline by lake, trail or mountaintop. Or, join us for one of our signature events.

Have the time of your life in Lake Lure & the Blue Ridge Foothills, the famous film site of "Dirty Dancing" and home to Chimney Rock State Park. Here, retreat to a destination where simple pleasures outshine the digital-age spectacles – a place where Main Streets reign over mega malls; where nature delivers the best adventures; and where history lives boldly and visibly in architecture, story, song, and spirit.

Experience these journeys and more when you visit Rutherford County located in the majestic Blue Ridge Foothills of Western North Carolina. Home to Lake Lure, Chimney Rock, Rutherfordton, Spindale, Forest City and Bostic, get ready to have the time of your life.

Download a free travel guide at www.TimeOfYourLifeNC.com or call 800-849-5998.

Contact

Visitor Center
2932 Memorial Highway
Lake Lure, NC 28746
828-287-6113

1-800-849-5998 ■ www.TimeOfYourLifeNC.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; Bellagio@Bellagioarttowear.com (800) 933-4438.

Blue Spiral 1 - Presents contemporary Southeastern fine art and crafts through over 25 annual exhibitions in a stunning three-level, 15,000 sq. ft. setting. The gallery features the work of one hundred regional artists. This spacious gallery is located in downtown Asheville, one block South of Pack Square. 38 Biltmore Ave; Exit Milepost 388.8. E-mail: info@bluespiral1.com. For more info (828) 251-0202. www.bluespiral1.com.

Folk Art Center - Milepost 382. Home facility of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Features craft shop of regional crafts, 3 exhibition galleries, daily craft demonstrations, special events. Parkway information and bookstore. National Park Service programs during season. Open daily 9-6 April-Dec; 9-5 Jan-March. Web site: www.craftguild.org (828) 298-7928.

Grovewood Village - 111 Grovewood Rd. Adjacent to the Omni Grove Park Inn. American art and craft gallery, restaurant, gardens, and more. Open daily, free parking. www.grovewood.com (828) 253-7651.

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: Artforliving@newmorninggallery.com; For more info: (800) 933-4438. www.newmorninggallerync.com.

Rug & Home - Over 20,000 oriental rugs & home accessories. Finest rugs from India, China, Pakistan, Persia, Turkey, Egypt, Karastan, Milliken. Tapestries, needlepoints, oil paintings, antique furniture, brass, crystal, & Tiffany lamps, mirrors. Local & national artists. Sculptures and fine porcelain. Located at I-26, exit 33 behind Ethan Allen. Open 7 days. (828) 667-4585.

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 handcrafters of sterling, copper & brass jewelry. Visitors may see craftsmen at work Monday thru Friday 8:00-11:30 & 12:30-3:30. 1 mile west of Parkway on US 70 at 940 Tunnel Rd. No charge. Web: www.stuartnye.com

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area - ***Protecting, preserving & celebrating one of the most beautiful regions on earth and the cultural heritage of those who shaped its history & traditions. Located in the Blue Ridge Parkway Visitor Center, 195 Hemphill Knob Rd. www.blueridgeheritage.com (828) 298-5330.***

Asheville, NC

The Destination That's Like No Other in the South

Let the magic find you in Asheville, North Carolina – a welcoming 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 new level. Take your pick of music venues offering live music from local legends and national names in a variety of soul-stirring styles. Sip innovative cocktails and award-winning craft beers. Explore the charming town of nearby Black Mountain, or wander through the 250-room Biltmore Estate, 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. Discover the lure of an Asheville getaway, and emerge inspired. Visit ExploreAsheville.com to book your stay today.

Contact

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

877-GO-TO-AVL ■ ExploreAsheville.com

FOOD, LODGING, & CAMPING

Asheville Biltmore Fairfield Inn & Suites - Left onto 191, 2.5 mi. on left across from Asheville Outlets. www.marriott.com/avlbs (828) 665-4242.

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 & kabins. 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. www.baymontinns.com/hotel/17936 (828) 274-2022, (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.

Clarion Inn Biltmore Village - I-40 to exit 50 or exit 50B. Nearest to Biltmore Estate & Biltmore Village, 2 mi. from Pkwy. Outdoor pool, deluxe cont. breakfast. (828) 274-0101.

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.

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

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.

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.

Contact

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

828-298-5330 ■ www.blueridgeheritage.com

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.

Crowne Plaza Resort - Exit 3A, 1 mi. from downtown, 5 min. from Pkwy. Wellness ctr, spa, golf, tennis, pools, zipline, restaurant, bar, free Wi-Fi, pet friendly. www.ashevillecp.com (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.

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.

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.

Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites - I-26 exit 33. Free hot continental breakfast, 1 mile from Parkway, pool, indoor heated spa, fitness center. (828) 665-6519.

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.

Hominy Vally RV Park - From Blue Ridge Parkway, exit Hwy 191. Open yr round. From I-40 exit 44, FHU, WiFi, minutes to Biltmore house. www.HominyValleyRVPark.com (252) 205-2772.

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.

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 - Vintage cabins & cottages with modern amenities. 9 mi. from MP 376. 6 mi. to downtown Asheville. www.ashevillepines.com (828) 645-9661.

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.

Sleep Inn West - I-40, Exit 44 left, Near Cracker Barrel. Biltmore Estate and Biltmore Village 6 mi. Blue Ridge Parkway 4 mi. Free wireless internet, free hot breakfast. Biltmore packages available. www.ashevillesleepinn.com (828) 670-7600 or (866) 901-1033.

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.

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.

RECREATION

Nantahala Outdoor Center - Visit Asheville's favorite outfitter now located at The Grove Park Inn. Shop the best brands in outdoor gear, apparel and accessories. Get outside and experience the mountains with family-friendly to high-adventure private guide services. Over 40 years experience in whitewater rafting, kayaking, hiking, fly fishing, mountain biking and canopy tours. Custom tours also available. Open year round. Visit www.noc.com (800) 232-7238.

RomanticAsheville.com - Insider's Guide to Asheville & surrounding mountains Biltmore, hiking, waterfalls, Parkway, packages www.RomanticAsheville.com

388.8 **US 25 Crossover.** North 5 mi. to Asheville.

393.6 **NC 191 Crossover**. 6 miles north to Asheville. 20 miles south to Hendersonville.

FLETCHER, NC

Located on US 25, halfway between Asheville and Hendersonville. Exit at Milepost 388.8.

Foam & Fabric - Hwy 25, 6 miles south of Blue Ridge Parkway. Area's largest selection of dress, upholstery, and drapery fabric. Open six days 9:00 to 5:30. (828) 684-0801.

Rutledge Lake RV Park - Exit 40 off I-26. 2 miles from Asheville airport. 170 Rutledge Rd. Go to www.rutledgelake.com e-mail us at rutledgelakepark@bellsouth.net or call (828) 654-7873.

Smiley's Huge Flea Mkt & Yard Sale - Every weekend. Daylight to 2; over 1000 spaces. Free park/admission. 12+ food vendors; 100's of sellers, 1000's of buyers, 1,000,000's of items; antiques to produce. 5360 Hendersonville Rd, Fletcher, NC. www.smileysfleamarkets.com (828) 684-3532.

HISTORIC HENDERSONVILLE AND FLAT ROCK AREA, NC

Hendersonville is located 22 miles south of Asheville and Biltmore Estate. Escape from life's hectic pace to Flat Rock Playhouse - the State Theatre of NC, Carl Sandburg Home, and Dupont State Recreational Forest waterfalls. 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. Historic downtown features interesting architecture, delightful shops, museums, and locally owned restaurants. Henderson County wineries, cideries, and breweries provide tours and tasting rooms. Henderson County is home to Sierra Nevada Brewing Company's east coast brewing operation. For a free Vacation Planner call (800) 828-4244 or visit www.visithendersonvillenc.org.

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, WiFi, close to Sandburg Home, Flat Rock Playhouse. Open year-round. www.millhouselodge.com (800) 736-6073.

Discover Hendersonville, NC

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

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.

Contact

Visitor Information Center:
Open 7 days - 362 days a year:
Mon - Fri: 9 - 5 • Sat, Sun & Holidays: 10 - 5
For more information & Free Vacation Planner
Call 828-693-9708 • 800-828-4244

800-828-4244 ■ visithendersonvillenc.org

North Mills River Recreation Area - 30 primitive sites. 5289 N. Mills River Rd., Horse Shoe, NC. Nearby horseback riding, swimming, tubing, & fishing. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

POLK COUNTY, NC

First Peak of the Blue Ridge. I-26E, Exits 59 & 67. Explore gorges, hiking, birding, waterfalls, kayaking, scenic drives & historic small towns - Saluda, Tryon & Columbus. Enjoy horse shows, wineries, inspired shops/galleries, local restaurants & year-round events. Rejuvenate at historic inns, cozy cabins & hotels. www.firstpeakblueridge.org (800) 440-7848.

405.5 **NC 151**. 15 miles north to Candler.

408.6 **Mount Pisgah**. Campground w/showers, picnic area, trails, (May-November). Mount Pisgah was part of the 100,000-acre estate bought in the late 1800's by George W. Vanderbilt. The first forestry school in America was established on the estate. A large part of the woodland, the first large tract of managed forest in this country, became the nucleus of Pisgah National Forest. For camping reservations www.recreation.gov

Pisgah Inn - "Peak of the Parkway", elevation 5,000 ft. Open April 1 - Oct 31. Mountain handicrafts. Delicious food. Featuring country ham and mountain trout. Delightful overnight accommodations, with panoramic view. Milepost 408.6 on Blue Ridge Parkway. (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. Ancient rivers. And more than 250 magical waterfalls. Escape to Brevard and Transylvania County for your next great vacation adventure. Request your free travel planner and waterfall map at www.visitwaterfalls.com or calling (800) 648-4523.

Transylvania County & Brevard, NC

Land of Waterfalls!

Exit the Blue Ridge Parkway at Mile Marker 412 and discover the perfect spot to stay and play. Wind your way down US276 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, the soaring melodies of the Brevard Music Center and a host of welcoming accommodations.

Start your adventure today!

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

BREVARD AND PISGAH FOREST, NC

18 miles south of Parkway, exit Milepost 412.

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 - Open year round. Rock and gift shop plus mining! Located near Brevard. Only a short scenic drive from Hendersonville and Asheville. Get free info on our nearby breathtaking waterfalls. www.pfgems.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.

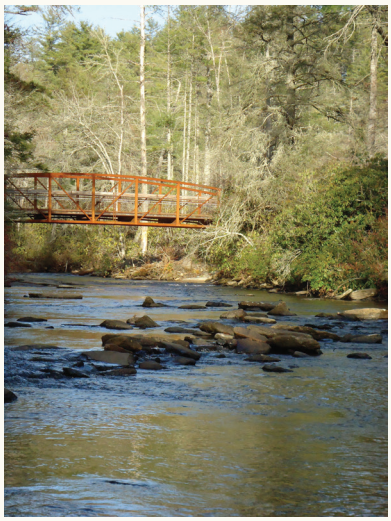
418.8 **Graveyard Fields Overlook.** Loop trail of moderate difficulty, 2.3 miles, to Yellowstone Falls.

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.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit http://go.nps.gov/parkway-realtime-map

DUPONT

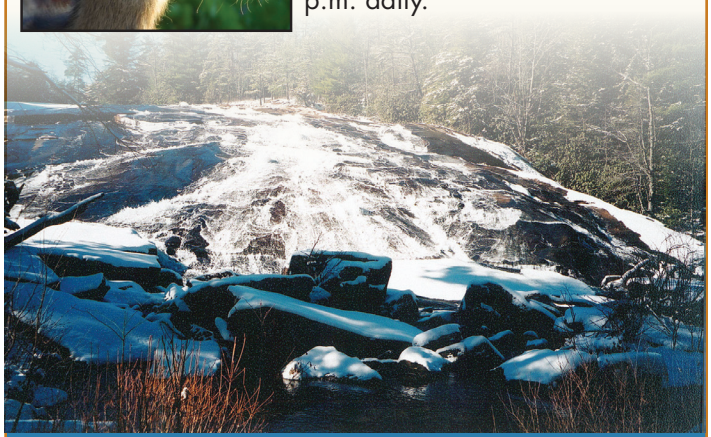
State Recreational Forest



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.

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.

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.

Headwaters Outfitters - Intersection of Hwy 215 & 64. Fly shop & guide service, paddling, tubing & taproom. 20 minutes from Parkway. www.headwatersoutfitters.com (828) 877-3106.

PARI - Former NASA facility now active center for research and STEM education, open Mon-Sat. Campus tours, scenic views, hiking trails, space flight 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.

Cowee Overlook.
Photo by Alex Armstrong

Highlands, NC

Aficionados and artisans of every genre— including acclaimed chefs— find their muse here.

People say something changes in you once you've experienced Highlands– a town perched atop an ancient rainforest plateau more than 4,000 feet above sea level. Wellness sojourners since the 1800s and second-home owners seeking a lifestyle of unaffected luxury have shaped a culture with an unusual blend of urbane refinement and down-home neighborliness. Aficionados and artisans of every genre—including acclaimed chefs— find their muse here, giving rise to a main-street social scene filled with interactive art experiences, live music performances, carefully curated shopping, award-winning dining and world-renowned accommodations. A widely-studied ecological wonder, the Highlands Plateau teems with rare species of flora and fauna. Its headwaters feed lakes, rivers and waterfalls, creating a natural playground for those that live and visit here. Experience life at another level. Elev. 4118—The Height of Happiness.

Contact

For more information, contact visitor@highlandschamber.org

866-240-2064 ■ www.VisitHighlandsNC.com

Cliffside Lake - 13908 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Two picnic pavilions, fishing pier, & 7 trails. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

Fire Mountain Inn & Cabins - Contemporary inn, private Treehouses, cabins with fireplaces, Jacuzzi's. Spectacular views, pet friendly. www.firemt.com (800) 775-4446.

Van Hook Glade Campground - 18 spacious campsites. 14014 Highlands Rd., Highlands, NC. Near beautiful Cliffside Lake. www.cfaia.org (877) 444-6777.

431.0 **Haywood-Jackson Overlook.** 1 1/2 mile self-guided loop trail, of moderate difficulty, to summit of Richland Balsam.

431.4 **Richland Balsam Overlook.** Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway motor road. Alt. 6,047.

HAYWOOD COUNTY, NC

Maggie Valley / Waynesville / Lake Junaluska / Canton / Clyde. Authentic Appalachian, pure and simple. Featuring 46 miles of the Blue Ridge Parkway, The Wheels Through Time Museum, Cataloochee Ski Area, locally crafted beers, U-Pick farms, local music, and so much more. For more information visit: www.visitncsmokies.com or call (800) 334-9036.

Haywood Cty Hotel & Motel Association - Lodging & dining within minutes of 4 BRP exits, MP 420-450. Quality rooms, cabins, great food. Let Your Adventure Begin! www.maggievalley.travel

WAYNESVILLE, NC

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

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, restaurant & bar, 27 holes of golf, pool, spa, WiFi, MP 445. www.thewaynesvilleinn.com (800) 627-6250.

Linville River and Blue Ridge Parkway
Photo by Alex Armstrong

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.

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.

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.

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 - 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/hotels/us/en/sylva/dsbnc/hoteldetail (828) 631-1111.

JACKSON COUNTY, NC

Highest point on Blue Ridge Parkway is here! Free map to 10 trails & 19 waterfalls. 1400+ rooms, restaurants, and walk-about towns. Welcome Center, Main St., Sylva. www.mountainlovers.com (800) 962-1911.

Smoky Mountain Host of NC - ***The region boasts 300+ travel attractions & businesses and national treasurers: Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Blue Ridge Parkway, Cherohala Skyway, and Nantahala & Pisgah National Forests. www.visitsmokies.org or (800) 432-4678.***

Jackson County, NC

Located 30 miles SW of Asheville, I-40 Exit 27 or Blue Ridge Parkway Milepost Exit 443.1

If you're ready to plan your great escape along the Blue Ridge Parkway, look no further than Jackson County. It's one big package of adventure. From epic single tracks and the Western North Carolina Fly Fishing Trail, to cozy mountain towns and local breweries, Jackson County has it all. To complement the breathtaking landscapes, Jackson County's mountain towns are also home to historic resorts, award-winning restaurants and notable shopping. Seems there's always something going on here. The county's year-round events calendar features activities from craft festivals to Christmas parades. And changes in season only mean new opportunities—from teeing it up in summer to hitting the slopes in winter—to enjoy Jackson County. All you have to do is jump right in. It's all here and waiting, so come ready to Play On in the beautiful mountain towns of Cashiers, Cherokee, Dillsboro, Sylva, Cullowhee, Glenville and Sapphire.

Contact

Jackson County Tourism
773 West Main Street
Sylva, NC 28779

800-962-1911 ■ www.DiscoverJacksonNC.com

Appalachian Mural Trail - 30 minutes from Parkway. Beautiful historic murals telling the stories of Cherokee & local heritage. www.muraltrail.com (828) 293-2239.

Hampton Sapphire - 43 miles west of Brevard, exit at MP 423.2 - rooms with views, breakfast, WiFi, indoor pool. www.blueridgemtnshotel.com (828) 743-4545.

451.2 **Waterrock Knob Visitor Center ? and Park Store** - Parking Overlook. 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.

RVs are always welcome on the Blue Ridge Parkway!

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. Located in center of Maggie Valley. New rooms. Reservation (800) 528-1234.

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. MP 443 Waynesville or MP 455 Maggie Valley/Soco Gap, 10 min. off Pkwy. www.boydmountain.com (828) 926-1575.

Maggie Valley / Waynesville, NC

A stay here truly stays with you. The Blue Ridge Parkway welcomes you with 46 of its most scenic miles. And, authentic Appalachian history, culture and natural beauty surrounds you.

In Cataloochee Valley, you can get close to the reintroduced elk population that is thriving in the Great Smoky Mountains. Motor touring enthusiasts will be in hog heaven at "Wheels Through Time," a 50,000-square-foot transportation museum celebrating American ingenuity. Plan ahead to attend an Appalachian heritage festival where you might see our award-winning bluegrass band, Balsam Range, perform. Our festivals have something unique for everyone to celebrate, like delectable ramps, clogging, and the North Carolina state dog, the Plott Hound.

Take a deep breath and enjoy a cascading waterfall on a mountain hike. Hit the slopes at one of the country's southernmost ski resorts, Cataloochee Ski Area. Take an agritourism adventure at a local farmer's market or u-pick farm. Go active with scenic bicycling, trout fishing, or a round of mountain golf. Then, after strolling our shops and galleries, end the day with a fresh farm-to-table dinner and a locally brewed craft beer or spirits. No matter what, we guarantee that a stay here will stay with you forever.

Contact

Instagram @VisitNCSmokies
Facebook.com/VisitNCSmokies
Twitter.com/VisitNCSmokies
YouTube.com/SmokyMountainsNC

800-334-0936 ■ VisitNCSmokies.com

BLUE RIDGE HERITAGE TRAIL

As you travel along the Blue Ridge Parkway, you can find six of the 70 interpretive signs that are on the Blue Ridge Heritage Trail, a collection of special places throughout the North Carolina mountains and foothills that embody the remarkable history and culture of the region.

Words and photographs tell an illuminating story about each site and highlight aspects of the region's natural and cultural heritage including Cherokee, traditional music, agriculture, craft, and the natural scenic beauty of the NC Blue Ridge mountains.

On the Parkway, Blue Ridge Heritage Trail signs can be found at overlooks at Air Bellows Gap, MP 236.9; Moses Cone Park, MP 294; Lost Cove Cliffs, MP 310; Orchard at Altapass, MP 328.6; Looking Glass Rock, MP 413.2; and Qualla Boundary, MP 458.9.

Heritage Trail signs can also be found in communities adjacent to the Parkway and in cities, towns and rural areas throughout the region.

Download a trail map brochure and learn more at
www.BlueRidgeHeritage.com
The Blue Ridge Heritage Trail is a program of the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Cataloochee Ranch - 5000' atop the Great Smokies. Direct entrance into Park. Rustic luxury in 2 lodges & 11 private cabins. Fireplaces, ranch-style meals, horses, tennis, fishing, hiking. Skiing in winter. (828) 926-1401 or (800) 868-1401.

Country Cabins - 5 mi off PKWY in Maggie Valley with authentic log cabins. Peaceful mountain retreat. Fireplaces, porches, hot-tubs. Open all year. Pet Friendly. www.countrycabinsmv.com (828) 926-0612 or (888) 222-4611.

Jonathan Creek Inn and Villas - Picturesque creekside setting with gazebo and charcoal grill. Room types are Creekside, Fireplace, Hot Tub, and Creekside Rooms with Screened-in Porches. Enjoy use of the creekside hot tub and indoor heated pool. All villa rentals include fireplaces and private outdoor hot tubs. www.jonathancreekinn.com (800) 577-7812.

Maggie Valley Area Lodging - ***Affordable motel/hotel rooms, cabins, cottages, B&Bs, and vacation rentals. You'll find your perfect home away from home while touring our awe inspiring mountains. www.visitmaggie.com***

Maggie Valley Club & Resort - 1819 Country Club Drive, Maggie Valley, NC. Stay, play & dine. www.maggievalleyclub.com (828) 926-1616.

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 - Hwy 19, 3 miles from Parkway. Great mountain view, creekside rooms. New rooms, deluxe breakfast. Reservations (828) 926-7800.

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

461.9 **Big Witch Overlook**.

469.1 **Junction Parkway and US 441.** 2 miles south to Cherokee, 29 miles north to Gatlinburg. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is located equally in North Carolina and Tennessee. The Park's 507,168 acres may be viewed from paved roads and many wilderness trails. Information bulletin board. Oconaluftee Visitor Center near Parkway & US 441.

DID YOU KNOW?

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

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.

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

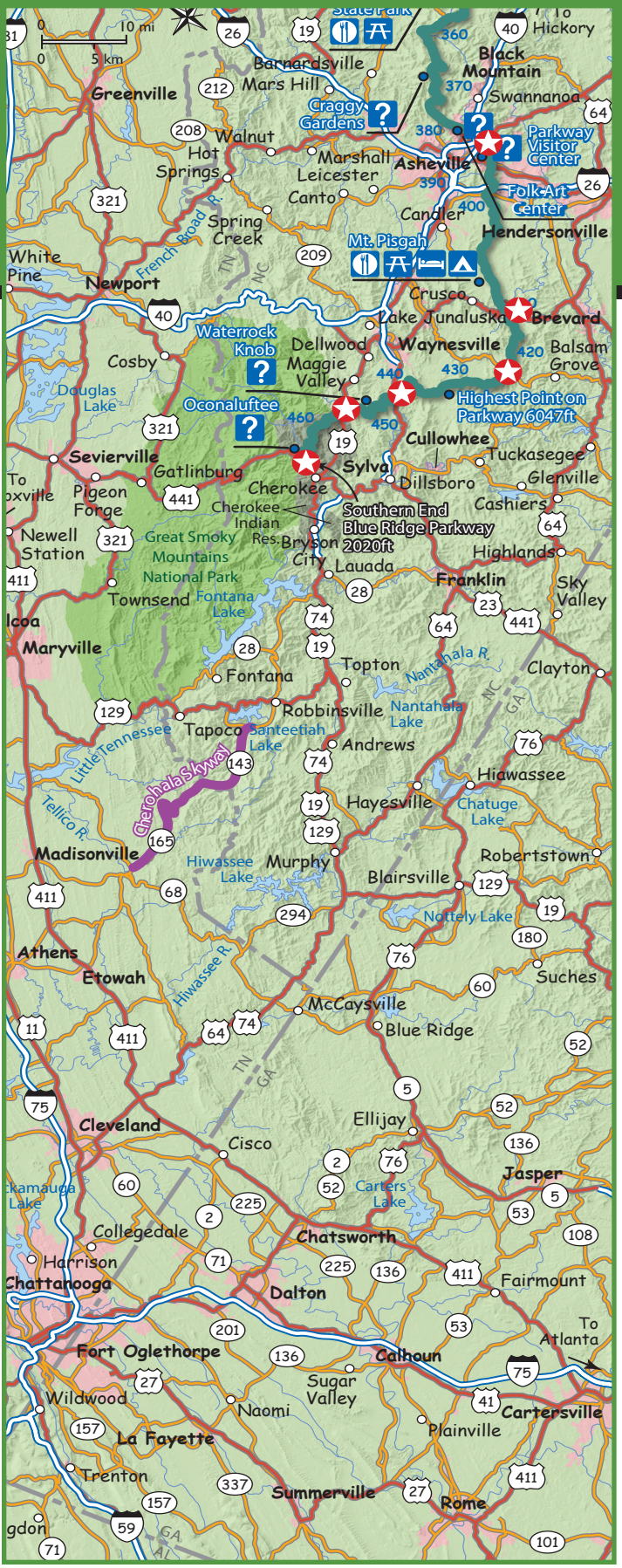
(865) 436-1200 www.nps.gov/grsm

Visitor Information Recorded Message:
(865) 436-1200

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.*



CHEROKEE, NC

At the southern entrance/exit to Parkway. Home of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Museums, cultural and family attractions, motels, campgrounds, restaurants, shops, famous outdoor drama "Unto These Hills" and Harrah's Cherokee Casino. Complete information at downtown Visitor Center, 498 Tsali Blvd, Cherokee, NC 28719. www.visitcherokeenc.com Toll-free (800) 438-1601.

ATTRACTIONS

Oconaluftee Indian Village - Poses the question, "Is it actually Cherokee history if it's still happening?" Today you can transport back to an 18th century village full of authentic stickball demonstrations, dance, staged war reenactments—you name it. If it happened then, it's happening now. Season opens May 1st, and tickets and times are available at www.visitcherokeenc.com or (866) 554-4557.

Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual Inc. - Largest selection of authentic Cherokee weaponry, basketry, beadwork, finger weaving, wood & stone carving. www.quallaartsandcrafts.org (828) 497-3103.

"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.visitcherokeenc.com or (866) 554-4557.

LODGING

Baymont Inn Cherokee - 1455 Aquoni Rd near the southern entrance of the Blue Ridge Parkway & the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. (828) 497-2102.

MAP KEY: explanatory table of symbols used on Parkway maps

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

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

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.

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.

For Blue Ridge Parkway information, including road conditions or closings, please visit http://go.nps.gov/parkway-realtime-map

Cherokee, NC

Close by. Thousands of years ago.

How will Cherokee affect you?

With just one visit to Cherokee, NC, you'll start seeing things a little differently. In the most delightful of ways. Here, you'll discover history isn't something relegated to musty old textbooks—it's alive and thrilling, as demonstrated in Oconaluftee Indian Village and the Museum of the Cherokee Indian. And you'll find yourself more keenly aware of how nature inspires artisans and craftspeople, once you try a fun hike to nearby Mingo or Soco Falls and afterwards take in Qualla Arts & Crafts Mutual, Inc. Maybe you'll stop your drive long enough to see our neighboring elk herd, and some part of you will connect the dots to a different type of outdoor drama, "Unto These Hills." The point is, it's almost impossible not to be struck by centuries of Cherokee history and stories even while you're having a great time today adventuring in Cherokee, NC.

Contact

Cherokee Welcome Center
498 Tsali Blvd.
Cherokee, NC 28719
Email: travel@nc-cherokee.com

800-438-1601 ■ VisitCherokeeNC.com

Spring Sunset on Clingman's Dome
Photo by Douglas Tate

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.

LODGING

Fryemont Inn - 245 Fryemont St., Bryson City, NC. National Register of Historic Places. All rates include dinner & breakfast. Open mid-April to Thanksgiving. From $160/nt for 2. (800) 845-4879.

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

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.

Bryson City, NC | Swain County

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

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, paddleboarding, zip-lines, 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.

Contact

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

800-867-9246 ■ GreatSmokies.com

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.

ATTRACTIONS

Christ Museum & Gardens - Experience the greatest story ever told, realistic life-size scenes from the life of Christ. Rare gems and coins plus the awe-inspiring face of Christ sculpture. New - Book of Revelation exhibit and Bible collection. www.christinthesmokies.com (865) 436-5155.

Ober Gatlinburg - Ride the 120 passenger Aerial Tramway to indoor ice skating, Alpine Slide, scenic chairlift, Wildlife Encounter, Ski Mountain Coaster, winter skiing, snowboarding, snow tubing, dining, shopping & 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.

LODGING

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

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.

Mingus Mill
Photo by Douglas Tate

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.

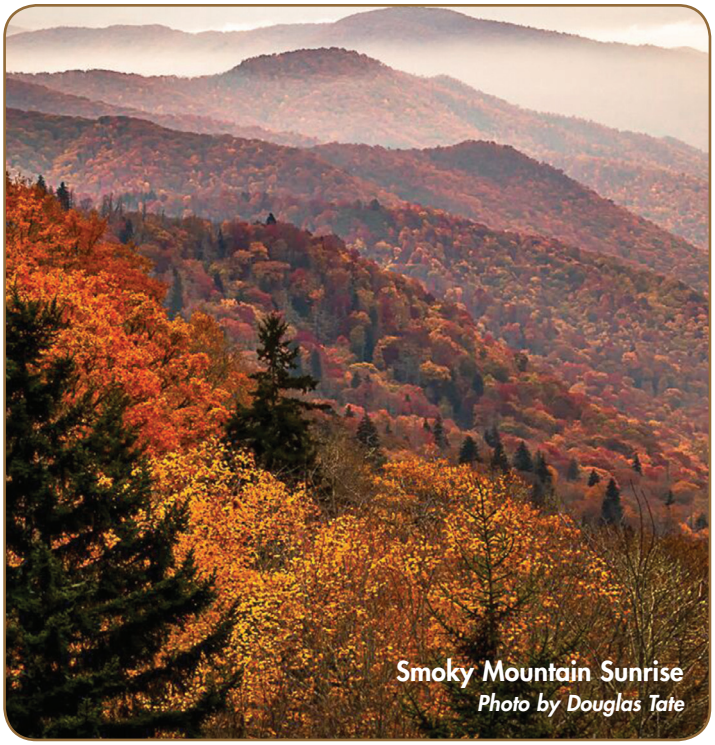
CHEROHALA SKYWAY

National Scenic Byway

The Cherohala Skyway was opened and dedicated in 1996. The road has been designated a National Scenic Byway. The road cost more than 100 million dollars to construct. The Cherohala Skyway crosses through the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee and the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina. The name "Cherohala" comes from the names of the two National Forests: "Chero" from the Cherokee and "hala" from the Nantahala. The Cherohala Skyway is located in southeast Tennessee and southwest North Carolina. The Skyway connects Tellico Plains, Tennessee, with Robbinsville, North Carolina, and is about 40+ miles long. The Cherohala Skyway is a wide, paved 2-lane road maintained by the Tennessee Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation. The elevations range from 900 feet above sea level at the Tellico River in Tennessee to over 5400 feet above sea level at the Tennessee-North Carolina state line at Haw Knob.

The Cherohala Skyway Visitor Center in Tellico Plains is a "must stop" before starting up the Skyway. Stop by for free maps, Skyway driving conditions and local area souvenirs and gifts. Picnic tables and spotless restrooms are available. A friendly staff will welcome you with important Skyway and area information

For more information visit: www.Cherohala.org
Toll Free: (800) 245-5428 or (423) 253-8010



Smoky Mountain Sunrise
Photo by Douglas Tate

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 (March & Nov. 10am-5pm; Apr.-Oct. 10am-6pm). 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.

NORRIS, TN

20 miles north of Knoxville, I-75 exit #122.

Museum of Appalachia - 20 miles North of Knoxville on I-75, exit #122. Smithsonian affiliate. Most authentic & complete replica of pioneer Appalachian life in the world. Open daily. www.museumofappalachia.org (865) 494-7680.

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 $19.95, Children 5-12 $10.95, 4 & under free. (423) 337-6616.

Sevierville, TN

Famous for its name brand outlet stores, flea markets, galleries and boutiques, Sevierville is known as the Shopping Capital of the Smokies. Find the best deals around by downloading Sevierville's Smoky Mountains app for free on iTunes and Google Play.

Located in the foothills of Great Smoky Mountains National Park, America's most visited national park, Sevierville, Tennessee is known for its high-end outlet shopping, exciting attractions and unique lodging options – including indoor water park hotels! Try zip lining (there are 14 courses in the area), indulge in down-home cooking, and spend time exploring historic downtown Sevierville.

While in Sevierville, be sure and see all things Dolly. Sevierville is Dolly Parton's hometown and many visitors stop for a photo with the singer's bronze statue in downtown Sevierville before making the five minute trip to her nearby Dollywood theme park, which offers award-winning rides, multiple live shows daily and traditional Appalachian arts, crafts and music.

From bucket-list worthy attractions like bi-plane flights and helicopter tours to fun-filled events and plenty of mountain moonshine, discover why Smithsonian Magazine named Sevierville one of its "20 Best Small Towns to Visit in 2015." Learn more at VisitSevierville.com.

Contact

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

888-738-4378 ■ VisitSevierville.com

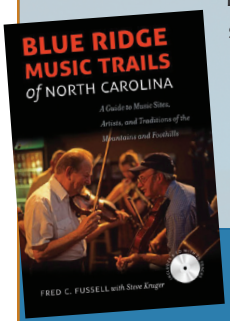
blue ridge MUSIC TRAILS of North Carolina

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

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

Moonlight over the Smokies
Photo by Douglas Tate

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.

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 828-862-5554 with specific questions.

Visit
www.pari.edu

Article courtesy of www.RomanticAsheville.com

Some nearby National Park Service Historical Sites to Visit

Overmountain 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.

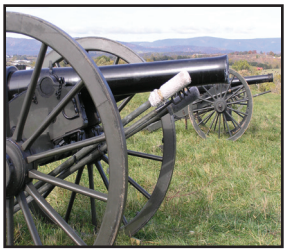
Overmountain Victory NHT
2635 Park Road • Blacksburg, SC 29702
(864) 936-3477 • www.nps.gov/ovvi

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

Appalachian National Scenic Trail

The Appalachian Trail is a 2,180+ mile long public footpath, from Maine to Georgia, that traverses the scenic, wooded, pastoral, wild, and culturally resonant lands of the Appalachian Mountains. Conceived in 1921, built by private citizens, and completed in 1937, today the trail is managed by the National Park Service, US Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, numerous state agencies and thousands of volunteers.

Appalachian Trail Park Office
P.O. Box 50 • Harpers Ferry, WV 25425
(304) 535-6278 • www.nps.gov/appa

I • N • D • E • X

NORTH CAROLINA

ALLEGHANY COUNTY 56
ASHE COUNTY 59
ASHEVILLE 77
AVERY COUNTY 68
BALSAM 86
BANNER ELK 68
BEECH MOUNTAIN 69
BLACK MOUNTAIN 75
BLOWING ROCK 65
BOONE 63
BREVARD & PISGAH FOREST 83
BRYSON CITY 92
BURNSVILLE 74
CALDWELL COUNTY 63
CANTON 82
CHEROKEE 90
CHIMNEY ROCK & GERTON 76
CROSSNORE 71
DOBSON 49
ELKIN 58
FLEETWOOD 62
FLETCHER 81
FONTANA 92
FRANKLIN & MACON COUNTY 91
GLADE VALLEY 56
GLENDALE SPRINGS 60
GREENSBORO 63
HAYWOOD COUNTY 85
HENDERSONVILLE/FLAT ROCK 81
HICKORY 63
HIGHLANDS 84
JACKSON COUNTY 86
JONESVILLE 57
JEFFERSON 60
LAKE LURE 76
LAKE TOXAWAY 84
LANSING 61
LAUREL SPRINGS 59
LINVILLE FALLS 71
LINVILLE 70
LITTLE SWITZERLAND 73
MAGGIE VALLEY 87
McDOWELL COUNTY 72
MITCHELL COUNTY 73
MT. AIRY 48
NEWLAND 70
PENLAND 73
PILOT MOUNTAIN 52
PINEOLA 70
PINEY CREEK 57
PINNACLE 52
POLK COUNTY 82
ROARING GAP 57
ROSMAN 84
RUTHERFORD COUNTY 77
SEVEN DEVILS 68
SPARTA 57
SPRUCE PINE 73
SUGAR MOUNTAIN 69
SURRY COUNTY 49
SWAIN COUNTY 91
SYLVA & DILLSBORO 86
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY 82
VALLE CRUCIS 65
WAYNESVILLE 85
WEAVERVILLE 75
WEST JEFFERSON 61
WILKES COUNTY 62
WINSTON-SALEM 62

TENNESSEE

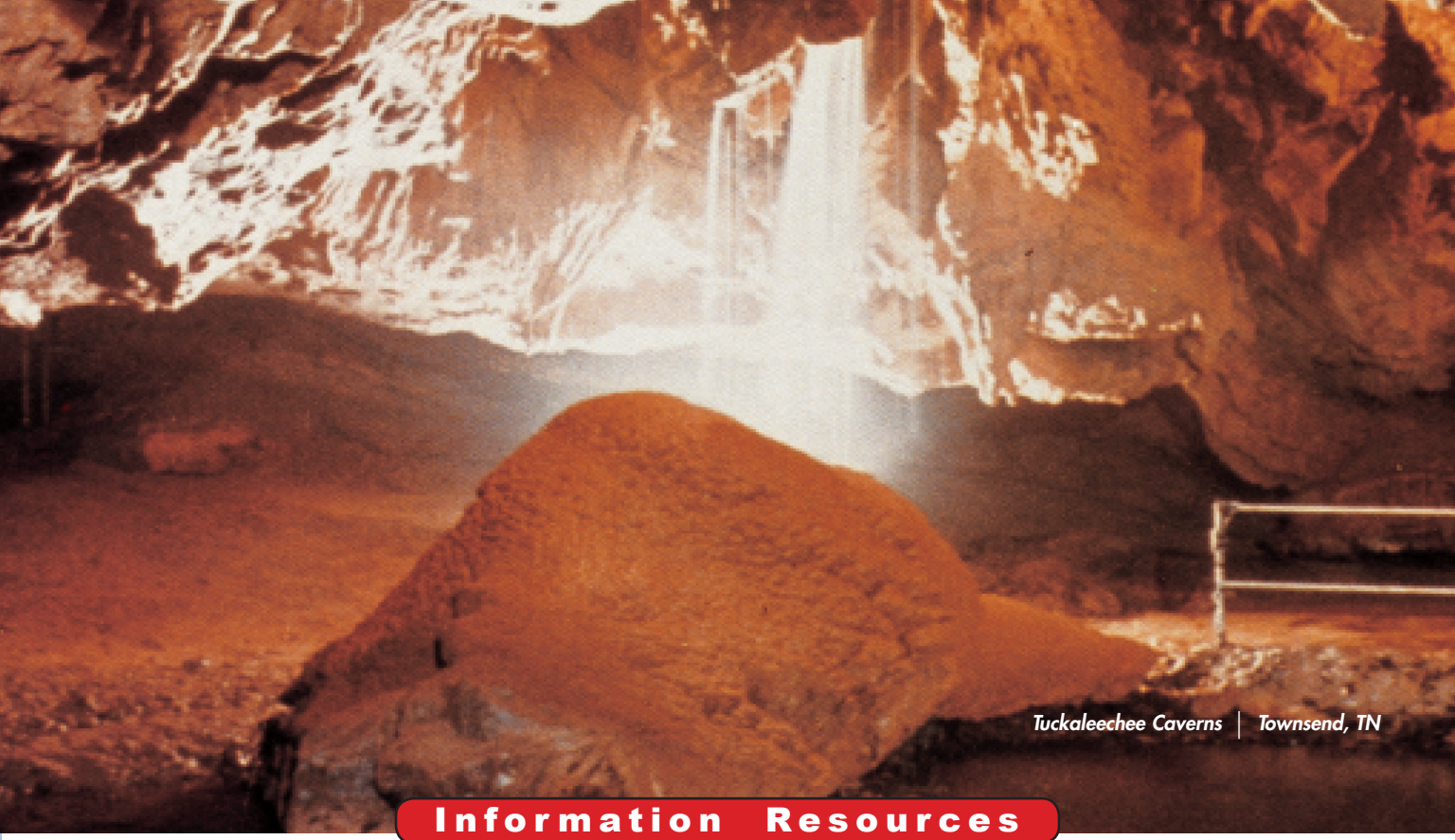
ELIZABETHTON 63
GATLINBURG 93
MARYVILLE 94
JACKSON COUNTY 86
NORRIS 94
SEVIERVILLE 94
SWEETWATER 94
TOWNSEND 94

VIRGINIA

ABINGDON 53
BEDFORD 38
BRISTOL 53
BUCHANAN, VA 39
BOTETOURT COUNTY, VA 39
BUENA VISTA 35
CARROLL COUNTY 47
CHARLOTTESVILLE 32
CROZET 32
FANCY GAP 48
FERRUM 43
FLOYD, VA & FLOYD COUNTY 43
FRANKLIN COUNTY 42
FRONT ROYAL 27
GALAX 54
GROTTOES 31
HARRISONBURG 31
HILLSVILLE 47
LEXINGTON, ROCKBRIDGE CO 36
LOVE 35
LURAY-PAGE COUNTY 28
LYNCHBURG 37
MADISON 30
MARTINSVILLE 47
MEADOWS OF DAN 45
MONTEBELLO 35
MONTGOMERY COUNTY 42
NATURAL BRIDGE 36
NELSON COUNTY 34
NEW MARKET 28
PAINT BANK 42
PATRICK COUNTY 46
PENNINGTON GAP 53
RADFORD 42
ROANOKE 41
SHENANDOAH COUNTY 26
SHENANDOAH CAVERNS 28
SMITH MOUNTAIN LAKE 40
STAUNTON 33
STEELES TAVERN 35
VINTON 41
WAYNESBORO 34
WILLIS 45
WINCHESTER/FREDERICK CO 26
WINTERGREEN 34
WOODSTOCK 26
WOOLWINE 45
WYTHEVILLE 55

WEST VIRGINIA

POCOHONTAS COUNTY 37



Tuckaleechee Caverns | Townsend, TN

Information Resources

Blue Ridge Country

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

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.BRPweather.com*.

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: *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 members--$30 annually makes a difference. PO Box 20986, Roanoke, VA 24018. (540) 772-2992. *www.FriendsBRP.org*

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*.

VirtualBlueRidge.com

Your online guide to the Parkway, including a Virtual Tour of all 469 miles, photo galleries, information on natural and recreational opportunities, maps, and a travel directory. *www.virtualblueridge.com*

ALONG THE PARKWAY...

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.

Parkway Craft Center
at the Moses Cone Manor
Milepost 294

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

Folk Art Center
Asheville, NC
Milepost 382